Volume 60, No. 3 FALL 2015

FUN Topics

The official publication of the
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Published Quarterly

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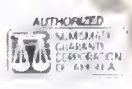

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President's Message

Randy Campbell
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813-963-2401 ext. 218

The recently concluded Summer FUN Convention in Orlando was one of the best Summer FUN shows ever! Convention coordinator Cindy Wibker told me that we may have set a record for tables sales at any Summer FUN event!

Public attendance exceeded my expectations. Several FUN member clubs rented buses to bring hundreds of eager collectors to the show. A luncheon for representatives of FUN member clubs was again held at the Summer FUN show. Former FUN president Tony Swicer did his usual outstanding job hosting this event.

Heritage's Summer FUN auction produced several eye-popping prices. Steve Ivy, Jim Halperin and the entire crew at Heritage deserve high praise for yet another outstanding sale.

Bob Russell did his usual masterful job running the exhibits. I hope all of you had an opportunity to view them. Many of these exhibits were spectacular!

The educational presentations at Summer FUN were just terrific. Most were well attended, especially board member Sandy Pearl's talk on "If It Sounds Too Good To Be True, It Probably Is!" Current FUN Vice President Bob Hurst's program on world coins was also very well attended. My sincerest thanks to each and every speaker! And I also want to salute board members Gary Braisted and Fred Lake for all their help with these seminars. And a special tip of the hat to Cindy Wibker for making all the arrangements.

Board member Tony Bonaro had his usual large group of eager young numismatists present for a wonderful program on Saturday. Indeed, EVERY FUN BOARD MEMBER worked extra hard (and VERY long hours) to make sure this show was a success. My heartfelt thanks to each and every one of them!

Next, I wish to give special credit to Jim and Carrie Best who, for many years, have made FUN-Topics the "best" quarterly magazine produced by any state numismatic organization. We really appreciate their efforts.

Finally, it's NOT too soon to start planning for the upcoming FUN Convention, January 7-10 at the Tampa Convention Center. We're hoping this becomes THE LARGEST FUN CONVENTION OF ALL TIME!! ---Be sure to book your hotel reservations in a timely fashion.

Randy

Sincerely Cindy

Cindy Wibker

cwibker@aol.com

One of the many, many things I love about the FUN show is that no matter what else is going on and no matter how slow the market is, our dealers and collectors show up and don't leave disappointed! The same was true about Summer FUN 2015. We had basically the same number of tables as we had last summer – 210. I watched the dealers arrive looking a little stressed and apprehensive, which was understandable. I'm always holding my breath, as well, as I truly care for them and their ability to make a living doing something they love. I want them to have a great show, leave with a smile, and come back next year. Well, this year did not disappoint! I had four dealers make an effort to find me Saturday morning to tell me what a great show they had so far, with one day left to go. All of them said they did better in two days at Summer FUN than they did the entire show in January. Yay for our dealers, and for our solid base of collectors who show up to support them!

From show management standpoint, there were no issues at the show. The show office ran smoothly under the watchful eye and courteous service of Angie Achenbach, who makes my job much less stressful during a convention. Mickey Achenbach helped on the bourse floor, and we all enjoyed meeting some of their family from Pennsylvania, including grandson Chase who had his first experience working as a FUN page. We're "family friendly" at FUN and have found some wonderful volunteer workers by bringing family members into our fold. I'm always happy to see Billy Walsingham with board member Eddie Abbott working with keys and cases, as they make a great team and work very hard to keep things running smoothly inside the exhibit hall. Jim and Carrie Best are to be commended for the nice convention program, and Carrie also is in charge of photo ID. Working with Carrie are Dreama Hurst and Ron Blackman. Three cameras, no waiting! Gerry Russell works tirelessly adding addendums to the programs, and also as needed at public registration and membership. When the dealers arrive they were greeted by Nancy Casey, Bernie Ososky and Sharon Blackman at the registration counters. Bob Russell rounded up some very nice educational exhibits for our visitors to enjoy. Randy Campbell put together an impressive list of educational speakers and topics for more learning opportunities. Bob Hurst is always troubleshooting as FUN's sergeant-at-arms, and Tony Swicer is my right-hand guy to help wherever needed. Gary Braisted and Sandy Pearl are FUN's dynamic duo from south Florida who keep the membership counters and public registration running smoothly. Donna Moon is in charge of the message center, and Steve Martin is our volunteer with the soothing voice on the PA system making announcements during the show. New board member Jay Chamberlain jumped right in like a seasoned veteran and helped at dealer registration. Jay is a hard worker and very enthusiastic and will fit in very nicely with the "FUN machine!" Tony Bonaro showed up at a FUN convention with his kids for the YN program many years ago and offered to help, and we never let him go. He has a gift for working with the YNs and Scouts in our Saturday programs, and also in running the Coins & Kids booth on the bourse floor. Fred Lake has several jobs – getting to events on time to take photos, keeping the educational speakers on time and delivering plaques and silver eagles to the speakers, getting the signs out and meeting the club buses – to name a few. I think we should call him "punctual Freddie" because he must watch his clock constantly so he doesn't miss an event or a photo opportunity.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to ALL of you, our FUN family, for making Summer FUN 2015 a big success!

(continued on page 8)

Sincerely Cindy

(continued from page 7)

I also have the pleasure of working with some people whose job it is to help me, but they all go "above and beyond" the call of duty and do an awesome job of taking care of whatever I need. At the Orange County Convention Center, I work closely with Michael Nemeroff on every aspect of the FUN shows. Michael answers my questions promptly and courteously and can solve a problem during the show in a matter of minutes. Our sales representative, Lisa Williams, has taken good care of FUN's contract needs for decades and always greets me with a smile. Randy, Mike, George and Andreas from Shepard Exposition Services set up the bourse floor and get everything done on FUN's behalf on time and very professionally. It's a pleasure for me to show up and see the table signs properly printed and hanging, the booths set according to the floor plan, and every detail down to the giant scissors we use for our ribbon cutting ceremony. I don't want to ever organize a FUN show without the security services of Positive Protection, Inc. If you ever have a security issue, I hope you have Kenny Mullins on your side! These are just a few of the "key players" who help me with the thousands of tiny details that go into organizing a FUN convention, and I want to thank them all.

As I write this, FUN is preparing to attend the ANA convention in Chicago in mid-August. If you haven't yet mailed your bourse application for January 2016 FUN in Tampa, you can hand it to any FUN representative at the show. The deadline for maintaining or possibly improving your table location is August 15th, so don't delay.

Last but not least, I want to mention once again about the hotel "pirates" who will contact you on the phone about securing a hotel room for you. They have built up quite a calling list of numismatic dealers from FUN, the ANA, Central States and the Whitman shows. We do not give them any information about our dealers, but they can compile a list by picking up convention programs. They promise things they cannot deliver, and some have contracts that legally allow them to charge your credit card double. Do not do business with them under any circumstances. Use only FUN's official housing bureau, which happens to be in Baltimore, to book your rooms. Details are elsewhere in this issue of FUN Topics, including a toll-free number you can call to book your hotel reservations. You can also book directly from our website at www.funtopics.com.

Enjoy what's left of your summer, and I'll return in the winter issue with more details about FUN 2016 in Tampa.

Sincerely,

Cindy

Angie Achenbach

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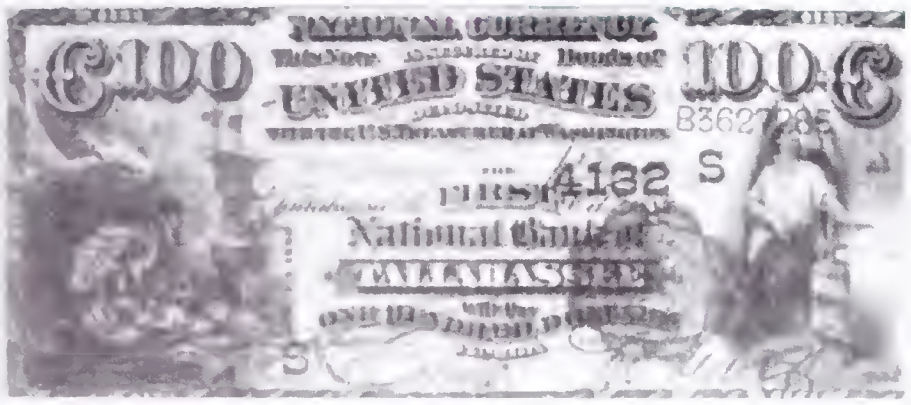

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INSIDE THE GRADING ROOM

by Randy Campbell, NLG
ICG Senior Grader

The coin grading firm where I am employed, I.C.G. of Tampa, just completed a string of five coin shows in five consecutive weekends! Two of those five shows, the Summer FUN Show and the Whitman-Baltimore Show, were surprisingly busy and very active. Much of the information contained in this article is derived from these recent coin conventions.

Our first customer sent us what he believed was an "ultra rare Seated dollar." The date on this dollar was, are you ready, 1847-CC!! That is NOT a misprint! I placed a telephone call to this customer. He was astounded to hear that the Carson City mint was not even in existence in 1847! When I told him the first CC silver dollars were made in 1870, he responded "Does that mean my coin is not genuine?"

I strongly urged this novice to buy a copy of the GUIDE BOOK OF UNITED STATES COINS (the "Red Book") and to read the pages dealing with Seated dollars. Then I urged him to join a local coin club where he can get introduced to the basics of coin collecting. LESSON TO BE LEARNED: There are many good reasons to buy the book before you buy the coin. The case of the 1847-CC dollar illustrates one of those good reasons.

Similarly, another new collector sent in an 1872 pattern silver dollar to be authenticated and graded. He said he paid a handsome price for this item. Unfortunately, this coin was a crude, underweight, Chinese style counterfeit with weak, mushy, lettering. And the design of this bogus item was never used on any pattern struck at the U. S. mint. LESSON TO BE LEARNED: There are a few books devoted to the study of U. S. patterns. Buy and read at least one of them BEFORE purchasing any pattern coin. Also, beginning collectors DO have the option of buying a pattern (or a CC Seated dollar) already certified by one of the four major certification services. It really is better to be safe than sorry, especially when buying a high priced item.

Finally, a collector brought two silver dollars up to the I.C.G. table at the recent Baltimore show for a free verbal opinion. Each coin was dated 1895. "I've got one coin that's worth a lot and another one that I think is worth much less," he said. "Show me the valuable one first," I told him. This first coin was a nice frosty piece that graded approximately AU-55. "Is that '95 PROOF worth a lot of money?" he asked. "Actually, it's an 1895-O dollar with a removed "O" mint mark," I responded. I explained to him that Proof Morgans have mirrored surfaces while business strikes usually have frosty surfaces. I was also able to diagnose the exact VAM number of this particular item, proving its New Orleans mint provenance.

The news was better on his second coin. Much better. This particular 1895-O dollar STILL had its mint mark. It also had an above average strike and wholly original creamy white luster. When I informed him "This coin, which grades approximately MS-64, is worth maybe $50,000-$60,000 or more" he nearly fell over! "Thanks for setting me straight," he said.LESSON TO BE LEARNED: This customer would have been much better prepared had he purchased a copy of Wayne Miller's MORGAN AND PEACE DOLLAR TEXTBOOK. He likely would NOT have confused an 1895 PROOF dollar for an 1895-O!

See you next issue for "INSIDE THE GRADING ROOM."

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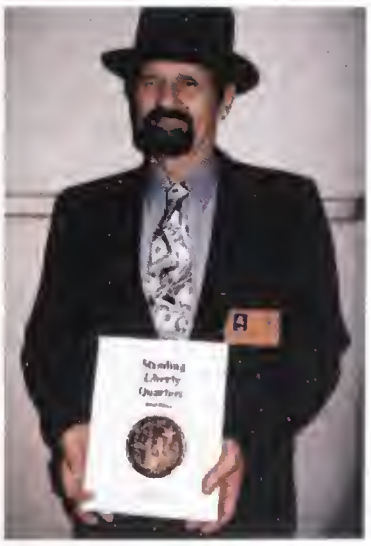

In Memoriam
J. H. Cline

J. H. Cline, a specialist in Standing Liberty Quarters and a full-time coin dealer for over 50 years died January 8, 2015 as the result of an accident that occurred in late December 2014 at home. Jay was passionate about the 1916-1930 quarter series and wrote the book "Standing Liberty Quarters" in 1976. Revised 3 times, and now in its 4th Edition, information in his books is often quoted by the major auction houses in their catalogs, due to the wealth of informaion on this series. He is survived by wife of 34 years, Vicki, and 5 adult children, 10 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. At his request, no formal service was held.

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YN's Have Fun

Tony Bonaro

t.bonaro@xrail.com

Dear YN's, Friends of YN's, and Parents too,

Were you at the Summer FUN show in July. If not, you missed a lot of fun and a great time. Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and a lot of YN's had the opportunity to participate in the YN program and the merit badge program. Between Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 322 YN's had the chance to spin our Coins and Kids prize wheel. That means we gave away a lot of neat coins. Every spin wins a coin.

To say the least, we had a very busy time with all of our YN's. I would like to say a very special thank you to Megan Zechman who was there as a volunteer all three days to help me out. There is no way we could have made it through the weekend without her help.

I would also like to thank the following individuals who donated coins and materials to the YN program.

John and Nancy Wilson, Bob Hurst, Emorey Robinson of Edgewood Coins, Paul Cunningham of Cunningham Exonumia, Kim Jenkins from the U.S. Mint, The Southern Cross of Sumter, South Carolina, Connie Robertson of Connie's Coins, Del Corbin of Corbin's Coins, and all of the other YN Friends who dropped things off at the booth or FUN office.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Our next FUN show is going to take place at the Convention Center in Tampa. Not only is the show going to take place in a different location, the YN program is also going to change. Starting in January 2016 we will have a Junior YN (age 5-11) program and a Senior YN program (age 12-18). Everyone will meet in the same room, then we will divide into two groups. More to come on that later.

We will also have the Boy Scout Coin Collecting merit badge program on Saturday afternoon. So all of you scouts need to talk it up at your scout meetings and get more boys to come out. Girl Scouts are also welcome.

Are you between the age of 14 and 21? Would you like to attend the ANA Annual Summer Seminars in Colorado Springs? Then you need to send me an essay explaining who you are, what you have done in Numismatics, and why you deserve a scholarship from FUN to attend. Send your information to me via email at t.bonaro@xorail.com. All applicant information must be received by October 1, 2015.

August YN TRIVIA:

Here's another chance to win a nice prize. Try your hand at the word-search puzzle below. After finding all the words, the extra letters not used will give you the answer to this question: "If you find all the words, who are you?

Answer to the question will appear in the next 'FUN TOPICS'.

CENT	COINS	DIME	DOLLAR
FACE	HALF	MINTMARK	MOTTO
NICKEL	QUARTER	RIM	YEAR

Q	I	A	Y	K	M	A
H	U	R	E	R	N	R
C	A	A	A	A	I	T
O	M	L	R	M	C	N
I	O	L	F	T	K	E
N	T	O	A	N	E	C
S	T	D	C	I	L	R
Y	O	N	E	M	I	D

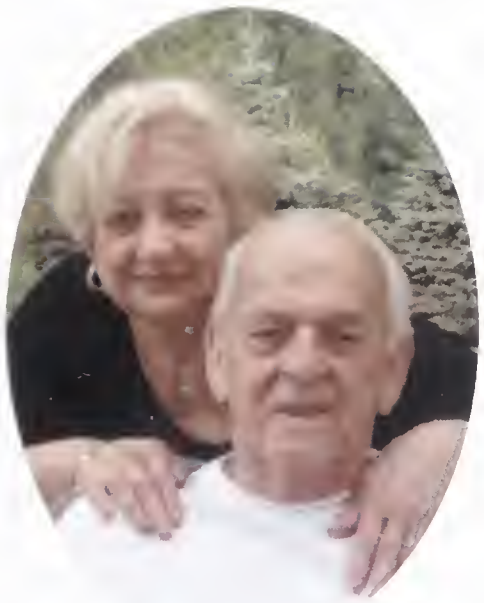
Email me back at t.bonaro@xorail.com,

See you in Tampa in 2016

Tony

FRIENDS of F.U.N.

Continuing with this column about the friends of Florida United Numismatists who volunteer their time to help run the best coin show in the world. Each column highlights the current life of one or two of our regular volunteers. Most of these volunteers have been helping put on the shows for many years. We have asked each one of them for a short biography of what they do when they are not helping with the FUN show and then what they have done over the years to help put on the FUN show. Enjoy the column and if you have any questions or input, let the editor know at funtopics@aol.com. ENJOY!



Allen "Mickey" Achenbach and Angela Achenbach have been part of the Fun shows for the past 9 years. Angie assists Cindy in the show office and always ready to help any of the board members with anything and everything. Mickey started out helping Eddie with Keys and and Cases and is now helping Angie and Cindy in the office and is always ready to run an errand or help out anywhere that is needed. They both are very valuable volunteers.

Originally from PA the Achenbach's now reside in Largo, Florida. When they are not having fun at coin shows they like to spend their free time with their two wonderful children and five grandchildren. Two of the five grandchildren have enjoyed serving as pages during the shows.

Angie and Mickey truly enjoy assisting at the two shows. They have met some lovely people who run the organization.

Summer FUN 2015 Summer FUN

Young Numismatists Program

Eight Reales and Silver Dollars

By Mark Benvenuto

In the past few years, there have been some great auctions, both through FUN and elsewhere, which included truly amazing silver dollars. Whether they are Morgan dollars in the highest of mint state grades, or any of the early silver dollars – including the ultra-rare 1804's – there is no doubt that high end silver dollars make us all dream of the best. But the reality of most collectors' wallets is that these coins are out of reach. That in turn makes a person wonder just what sort of silver dollar collection can a person assemble, if they want to try for the big silver that might have been used in a young United States? Well, to answer that, let's consider the following:

8 Reales of the Spanish kings

It has been mentioned many times that the coins of the Spanish colonies generally fueled daily commerce in both the thirteen colonies, as well as in the expanding, new nation before a United States Mint was up and running. It's fair then to think that Spanish silver, perhaps as far back as 1750, qualified as the silver dollars of a young US. In a bit more detail, that means 8 Reales of Philip V, who reigned up to 1746, as well as of Ferdinand VI, who reigned up to 1759, might both qualify as coins used extensively in the US. Both of these 8 Reales pieces are what are known as pillar dollars, since they do not carry an image of the monarch. Straddling independence, 8 Reales pieces of Charles III, who reigned up to 1788, might also qualify as early US dollars. Finishing up a series of 8 Reales might be those of Charles IV, who reigned up to 1808, as well as Ferdinand VII. Coins of these last three monarchs are often called portrait dollars, because the king's portrait dominates the obverse.

Mexican coinage

Collectors in the US are pretty good with many of the dates surrounding the founding of our country. We all know the Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4th, 1776, and most know that the Battle of Yorktown ended in 1781, that the war officially ended in 1783 with the signing of the peace treaty, and that the first United States Mint was authorized in 1792. But we're considerably shakier when it comes to dates for the independence of Mexico.

Mexico fought it out with Spain from 1810 to 1821, which is a long time to struggle for independence, and a lot of years for blood to be shed. Perhaps a minor consequence of all this was that in the early 1820's, the big 8 Reales changed to what is now called the Cap and Rays design. The obverse sports a liberty cap in front of what appears to be the shining rays of the sun, while the reverse displays the Mexican eagle and snake symbol still used today. It was only in 1857 that the United States Congress finally put into law the idea that Mexican coinage should no longer circulate in the growing nation. The simple fact that a law needed to be made to ensure our folks started using our coins exclusively, and stop using Mexican coinage for daily commerce, is a strong indicator that the early Mexican 8 Reales also qualify as a type of US silver dollar – perhaps the relationship then could be called "in loco parentis," as far as these coins were concerned.

Yes, a pre-1804 silver dollar

Anyone building a collection of early US silver dollars will probably not be satisfied solely with Spanish and Mexican substitutes for what we consider "the real thing." And yes, there are definitely some early US silver dollars out there, meaning those made before 1804. The problem with collecting them is the same now as it has been for decades: they're expensive! A person might be able to assemble something like a full date run of the 8 Reales of one or more of the Spanish kings we just mentioned for the price of one early US silver dollar.

(continud on page 18)

Eight Reales and Silver Dollars

By Mark Benvenuto

(continud on page 18)

For a moment though, let's say we have the resources to go hunting for a single early US silver dollar. The only years we could claim are not rare would be the 1798, the 1799, and the 1800, as these are the only years where mintages went into six figures. The 1799 is the most common of this trio, with a total of 423,515 as the official number. But even this is misleading, as many early US silver dollars were exported and melted down for the silver in them.

Without looking at a price listing, we know that something like a mint state version of the 1799 will cost a fortune, so let's consider something a bit lower on the totem pole, as it were. How about any variety of 1799 (and there were plenty of varieties in these early dollars), but in fine, or F-12 condition? This could still have a wealth of detail. Well, as this is being written, that would cost us $1,750. That's not a king's ransom, but it's hardly cheap either. If we do want to go down this road, it's probably going to mean saving up for the purchase.

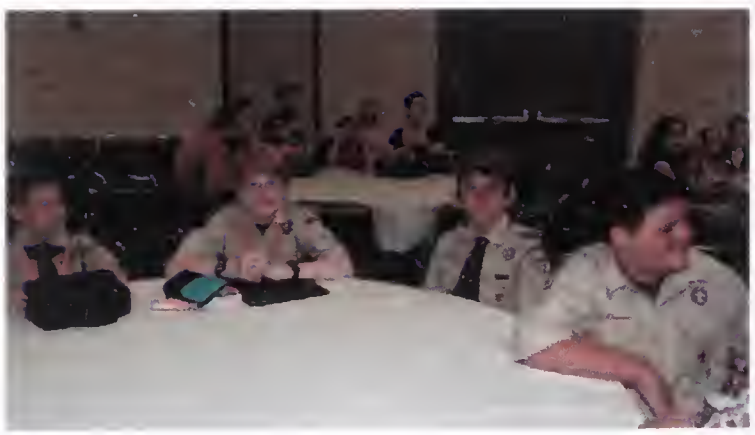
The Seated Liberty silver dollars

One final silver dollar we could add to our growing suite of these big, silver discs is any Seated Liberty dollar from before 1857, the year when all the silver from south of the border was officially taken out of the channels of commerce. There's some good news here, in that a few of the dates are available for about $350 - $400 in that just mentioned F-12 grade, despite several small annual mintages. Again, they are not cheap. But this price is far easier a pill to swallow than what we just quoted.

Early US silver dollars are fascinating coins, if expensive ones. But we've seen that there are some possibilities here, and that those possibilities get bigger if we choose to widen our gaze.

The End

Summer FUN 2015 Summer FUN



Young Numismatists Program

NEW FUN MEMBERS

NEW REGULAR MEMBERS

NUMBER	NAME	STATE
26165	TORRES, HENRY	FL
26166	JACKSON, SCOTT D.	FL
26167	GAGNON, ROBERT	FL
26168	FRANKS, RUSSELL	FL
26169	MCNAUGHTON, JAMES	SC
26170	METCALF, BILL	FL
26171	DAVIS, CAROLE	FL
J26172	DAVIS, CARSYN	FL
26173	MOORE, HAL	OH
26174	MILLER, ANDY	OH
26175	FRAMPTON, CORY	AZ
A26176	ECONOMOPOULOS, BEVERLY	PA
26177	GALLAGHER, KIMBERLY	MI
J26178	LEECH, JEFFREY	FL
J26179	TOVAR, ASPEN	FL
26180	WILLIAMS, STEPHEN	FL
26181	MCCALLISTER, JOHN E.	GA
26182	MORIN, RICHARD	FL
26183	YOUNG, ROBERT	AL
A26184	YOUNG, SUSIE	AL
26185	ATHOS, JORDAN	FL
26186	BEAN, DAVID	VT
26187	CLOVER, NARA	CA
26188	ROSS, GARY C.	NY
26189	EPPLY, KYLE	FL
26190	ROYER, DENISE	FL
26191	CEDILLO, ALDO	FL
26192	SANCHEZ, JENNY	FL
26193	FASSITT, BRITANY	FL
26194	RITCH, KRISTI	NC
26195	DAVIS, ANGELA	MS
A26196	LEE, PATRICIA	FL
26197	WALLAR, JAKE	KY
26198	SCALISE, SAM	FL
26199	THOMAS, WILLIAM	MS
26200	DAKHLALLAH, DEAN	FL
A26201	DURHAM, STEFANIE	SC
J26202	DURHAM, SARAH EMILY	SC
A26203	SEGRAVES, PAM	GA
A26204	WATSON, DIANE	VA
J26205	HANNIGAN, COLTON	FL
J26206	JOHNSON, CHASE	FL
J26207	HAMRICK, ANGELINA	GA
J26208	VENABLE, BOE	FL
J26209	WADE, ZACH	VA
J26210	HALTER, JIM	TX
J26211	DEUTSCH, ZAHARA	FL
J26212	DEUTSCH, HADASSAH	FL
A26213	DEUTSCH, SHAYNE	FL
26214	GARSON, WISS	FL
A26215	ROTH, ERIC	CA
A26216	PAUL, MATTHEW	PA
J26217	HOYOS, CARLOS	FL
J26218	HOYOS, JENNY	FL
26219	TERCYAK, STEVE	FL
26220	ROBERTS, JOHN	SC
26221	BERKLEY, WAYNE	CA
26222	RODERY, DAWN	FL
26223	CASWELL, DORIANNE	TX
26224	LIGUDING, HAZEL	CA
J26225	POPIELARZ, MATEUSZ J.	FL
26226	PAUNICKA, JEFFREY	IN
A26227	MENCLEWICZ, CATHY	IN
A26228	MORROW, CAROL	FL
J26229	WEBBER, DEVON	FL
26230	NOLAN, TIMOTHY	FL
26231	SNYDER, JEFFREY	NY
26232	DE HOYOS, CELESTINO	FL
J26233	ASTROWSKY, MADISON	FL
J26234	SEIF, JOSHUA	FL
J26235	CAI, JOHNATHAN	FL
J26236	ROTH, LANDON	FL
J26237	ROENBECK, ROBERT	FL
J26238	ROENBECK, LUCAS	FL
J26239	CLARK, MITCHELL	FL
J26240	CLARK, ISABELLE	FL
J26241	STRINGER, ADAM	FL
J26242	LEHMANN, WILLIAM	FL
J26243	SEDA, ALANY	FL
J26244	SEDA, ALEAH	FL
J26245	JOHNSON, MORGAN	FL
J26246	SEYMOUR, ASHTON	FL
J26247	MCDONALD, REECE	FL
J26248	TREJO, NICHOLAS	FL
J26249	SMITH, CHRISTOPHER	FL
J26250	GULLETT, SAMUEL	FL
J26251	OUKHCHI, LANDON	FL
26252	SARLES, DAVID	FL
26253	MISIAK, DENNIS P.	FL

2015

Summer FUN

Summer FUN

FUN Board Members and Officers

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you FUN for the ANA table at 9th Summer FUN 2015 Convention and Show Highlights

We want to sincerely thank FUN Board Member and Convention Coordinator Cindy Wibker, President Randy Campbell and the entire Florida United Numismatists (FUN – www.funtopics.com) Board for letting the American Numismatic Association (ANA - www.money.org) have a table at your July 09-11, 2015, 9th Annual Summer Fun Convention in Orlando, FL. The ANA table was extremely busy, and we signed up 21 new members for the Association. We passed out numismatic literature, elongates & other give-aways, flyers for our future conventions in Chicago and Dallas, along with, The Numismatist and other items. We were able to get a donation for the shipment of the coin show kit from Tiburon, California Dealer Kagin's, Inc.

Well over 200 tables were set up for the dealers, exhibitors, grading services, coin clubs, Wizard supplies, Piedmont Gold Panners, Coin and Kids area, message center, and the U. S. Postal Service. FUN also has a Budget and Foreign & Ancient section. Security by PPI and local law enforcement agencies was top notch with no problems reported. Heritage Auctions (www.HA.com) had an excellent auction in conjunction with the show. FUN does an excellent job of setting up the hall with several aisles where you can go with ease from one side of the hall to the other. Morning coffee and other snacks were provided to dealers for the three days of the event. FUN had a public and dealer registration area near the front door which is run by Board members and volunteers. No matter how long the line, the visitors were quickly processed and were able to get in the convention in a very timely manner. Visitors received a cloth bag and tokens. New Photo IDs were issued to the dealers and it took a little while longer to process them. We really like the new IDs which have the photos on both sides of the credential. We will mention that FUN makes special slabbed eagles that are giving to the exhibitors and others who contribute to the show. They are made in very limited number and are a very nice numismatic item for exhibiting at the show. Coin World sent some publications which were available at tables near the exhibit area.

Attendance for the convention appeared to be in the low thousands, with Friday the busiest. Attendance was helped by FUN paying the costs to coin clubs, for them to arrange bus service for their members to attend the convention. Attendance is also helped by FUN advertising their two shows via newspapers and television. FUN also attends several major coin shows every year to promote their organization and convention(s). This is well spent money which helps to keep FUN one of the major coin clubs in the country.

(continued on page 26)

Summer FUN 2015 Summer FUN

Educational Seminars, Panning for Gold, Educational Exhibits

Member Club Bus Trips: Greater Jacksonville Coin Club, Ocala Coin Club, West Hernando Coin Club, and Palm Beach Coin Club

Summer FUN

2015

Summer FUN

MARK TROUT

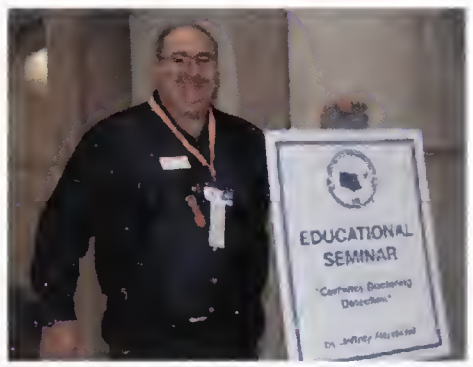
BOB HURST

Educational Seminars
Six speakers with different topics.

RAY HERZ

SANDY PEARL

DR. DAVID ELLIOTT



JEFFREY PAUNICKA

Member club meetings

Panning for Gold

Coins N Kids Booth

Ohio Legislature Considering Sales-Tax Exemption

Industry Council for Tangible Assets

P.O. Box 3253
Annapolis, Maryland 21403
410 626 7005
icta@ictaonline.org
ictaonline.org

The Ohio Precious Metals Association (OPMA) has been engaged in efforts to obtain a sales-tax exemption for rare coins, paper money, and precious metals since its founding in 2013.

Representative Ron Maag introduced 2013 HB 26: Sales & Use Tax-Exempt Investment Metal Bullion & Coins on February 5, 2013. The bill was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee. Ultimately, the Conference Committee added the bill to the biennial budget bill, which passed the House and the Senate.

Governor John Kasich exercised his line-item veto power on June 30, 2013, removing the provision exempting investment metal coins and bullion from Ohio sales tax. "There is no reason to provide preferential treatment to one class of items and not others that could possibly increase in value, such as art, sports cards, or antiques. Therefore, this veto is in the public interest," stated the governor's veto message.

On February 3, 2015, HB 26: Sales & Use Tax-Exempt Investment Metal Bullion & Coins was introduced again by Representative Ron Maag and Representative Christina Hagan. The bill's co-sponsors include Rep. Wes Retherford, Rep. Michael Henne, Rep. Andy Thompson, Rep. John Becker, Rep. Bill Hayes, Rep. Kristina Roegner, Rep. Sarah LaTourette, Rep. Jonathan Dever, and Rep. Steven W. Kraus.

The bill was assigned to the House Ways and Means Committee on February 10, 2015.

It received a public hearing from the Committee on April 14, 2015. Ohio coin-business owners David Miholer (Executive Coin Company) and Brad Karoleff (Coins +), lobbyist and OPMA Executive Director Jeff Longstreth, ICTA Treasurer Patrick Heller, and ICTA Executive Director Kathy McFadden testified at this hearing. Their statements in favor of HB 26 were well received by the Committee membership.

On May 20, 2015, the Committee gave the bill a favorable report and the House voted and passed it (84-14) on June 17, 2015.

The bill was assigned to the Senate Ways and Means Committee on June 24, 2015. We are confident the Committee will give the bill a favorable report and optimistic that the Senate will vote to pass it. Stay tuned!

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CUSTOMER OF THE WEEK / PHONE CALL OF THE WEEK - Part 19

By Tony Swicer -- Numismatic Ambassador 2009

ANA Glenn Smedley Award Winner 2007 ••• 2007 NLG Award Winner for Best Column, "Customer of the Week"

(continued from Summer Topics 2014)

321. A man comes in with an 8 real from the Atocha. He paid $600. I told him it wholesaled $150. He said, "Oh no, these coins never go down in value".

322. A phone call, "I have some silverware for sale". I said, "Make sure it says Sterling on it". She says, "Well of course it is, my grandfather gave it to me". She comes in and it is PLATED.

323. A guy buys a 1 oz. silver replica $100 bill for $80 from us off eBay. He then realizes it is not 4 oz. so he writes, " I am a government employee and I don't know where my next paycheck is coming from". We replied, "Dear sir, we thought you bid so much because you were a government employee".

324. In January we had a lot of rain and it was cold. A lady calls the day before the FUN show and asks, "Are they calling off the FUN show because of the weather?" It was 60-70 degrees and sunny in Orlando.

325. A local car dealer is giving away 1 oz gold plated bars just for coming in to the dealership. I get a phone call, "What are you paying for 1 oz gold bars?". I said, "$1250". About a hour later in walks the guy with the gold PLATED bar. I said, "See right here where it says PLATED?". I asked, "Do you really believe a car dealer would give you a gold bar out of the goodness of his heart?". He just stares at me.

326. We ran an ad to buy coins in the local newspaper. A gentleman calls and asks, "Your ad says prices good thru 9/27, what happens after that?" I simply said, "All prices are off, depending on the market".

327. We offered a goldplated medal on eBay starting at $1.99. We received no bids. We put it up again, and got $46.

328. A customer from eBay writes, "I received my large cent but it was smaller than I expected"!!!

329. A customer comes in to sell some coins. She says, "I used to know a lot about coins because I worked at a Convenient Store".

330. A customer calls from Miami (60 miles south). "Do you appraise coins?". "Yes, what do you have?" "I have a 1776 dollar." "Does it also have 1976 on it?" "Yes". "It was struck in 1976". "Think about it, why would they make a coin in 1776 and put a date on it 200 years later, 1976?" " It is 1976 and worth $1".

331. An eBay customer buys a proof 1964 half dollar and he wants to return it because he thought it was gold-plated. Nowhere did we say goldplated.

332. A eBay customer buys a Maria Theresa 1780 restrike for $30. He then wants to return it because it is not 1780. Then he says we sell counterfeits.

333. A guy calls an says that he sold us 90 "Crazy Horse" silver rounds 4 years ago. He now wants to buy one back and for us to ship it to him. We sold them the week he sold them to us.

334. An eBayer, "I'll buy your coin for $2 (less than half of what we want) and I'll pay instantly".

335. A customer comes in with 2 no date Buffalo nickels and says he was offered $12 each, what will we pay? I said, "12 cents and I don't want them, they don't have dates". He says, "They have dates?"

336. A customer asks, "How much is that 1 oz. gold eagle?" Mark said, "1238". The customer pulled out a $20 bill and said, "OK". He did not have a clue it was $1238.

337. A lady calls and asks, "What are the rare date dollars?" I said, "Any CC dollar, 1893-1895, what do you have?". "1971 Ike dollars", "Spend them".

338. A guy come to the shop in a cab. He shows me a ring and says that he had it appraised at $6,000. but he forgot the appraisal, what would we pay? I weighed it and said, "If it is 14K, I will pay $165. He says immediately, "OK, I'll take it". We test it and it is not gold. He lied. Imagine that!!!

(continued on page 26)

THANK YOU

(continued from page 21)

The majority of dealers appeared to have a good show. FUN always has great activities at their coin shows. The educational programs are always top notch and very educational. Some coin clubs also host meetings along with educational programs. On Saturday a superb Young Numismatist programs was held along with a Boy and Girl Scout Coin Collecting Merit Badge Clinic. It would be nice if the Scout Clinic ended earlier, as many of the dealers had left before the scouts visited the bourse area. David Lisot of CoinTelevision (www.cointelevision.com) videotaped the educational programs along with other events and individuals during the show.

Coin Club tables were also kept busy, especially the Original Hobo Nickel Society booth, which had engravers constantly working on new designs. They gave visitors some neat collectibles. Another exceptional table was set up by the 1715 Fleet Society. This table featured excellent information on the 300th Anniversary of the sinking of the 1715 Spanish Treasure Fleet off the central east coast of Florida. Mugs, T-Shirts and other tokens and medals were offered at this table. Other coin club tables also gave tokens, medals or foreign paper money to visitors. The Piedmont Gold Panners always draw a great crowd. One young collector stopped at the ANA table and showed a small golden nugget she panned for. The YN area also was kept busy during the convention.

The well-lit and spacious Orange County Convention Center is a great site for the convention and the parking at $10 is reasonable. A shuttle bus to and from the rear parking area was provided by FUN. Nearby hotels, theme parks and restaurants make Orlando, and this convention center one of the premiere coin show sites in the country. The multiple food areas at the back of the hall had some exceptional selections which made the dealers, collectors and visitors very happy. Convention Coordinator Cindy Wibker is to be congratulated, along with the FUN Board and other committee members for hosting a FUNtastic, and very successful convention. Thanks again to Cindy Wibker, Randy Campbell and the Board for the ANA table. We look forward to next year's 10th Summer FUN convention which will be held on July 7 - 9, 2016 at the Orange County Convention Center. The 61st FUN convention will be held on January 7 – 10, 2016 at the Tampa Convention Center, located in Tampa, FL.

Yours in numismatics, Mark & Myrna Lighterman and John & Nancy Wilson, ANA National Volunteers

Customer of the Week

(continued from page 25)

339. A customer comes in and tells me he wants $170 face in 90% silver coins and 75 silver dollars and quote, "He will pay $3000". I figured out what we wanted and he was $500 under what we could ship it for dealer to dealer. He walked.

340. A lady calls and she thinks she has a 1944 steel cent. I asked her if it was brown or gray and she could not tell me so she emails a picture of it. It was a 1944 copper cent dipped in cleaner. It obviously was not steel gray.

341. Here is a Why would you do that? A customer brings in a 10 gram silver bar he bought on line from China for $27.(Why would you do that?) He paid $81 an ounce for silver with silver at $17 an ounce. And of course they always ask you after they have bought it, "How did I do?".

342. A customer standing in front of the store call us on her cell phone at 11AM and asks if we are open. I said, "Yes, 9-5. She then asks, "How do I get in?" I said, "OPEN THE DOOR"

343. Two ladies come in and they want to see the Freiberg Paper Money Book. They show me the note and it is the Statue of Liberty $10,000 bill play money, yellow, black, and white.

344. A guy comes in and says, "I saw your ad in the paper so I brought in these coins". He has Ike dollars and Kennedy halves, all copper-nickel, nothing like what the ad called for.

345. "I came all the way from Boca Raton (20 miles) to sell this Ike dollar for a friend, what is it worth?" I said, "One dollar and we sell them for a $1.10".

346. A guy comes in with a 1886-O Morgan dollar, a cleaned VF. I offered $20 and he said it is worth $7000 on eBay. I said that is because it was certified MS-64. He asks, "What does that mean?". He has no concept about coin grading.

347. A lady comes in with two Tribute Buffalo gold coins. She thinks she can buy them on TV for $19.95 each, and sell them for $1600 each.

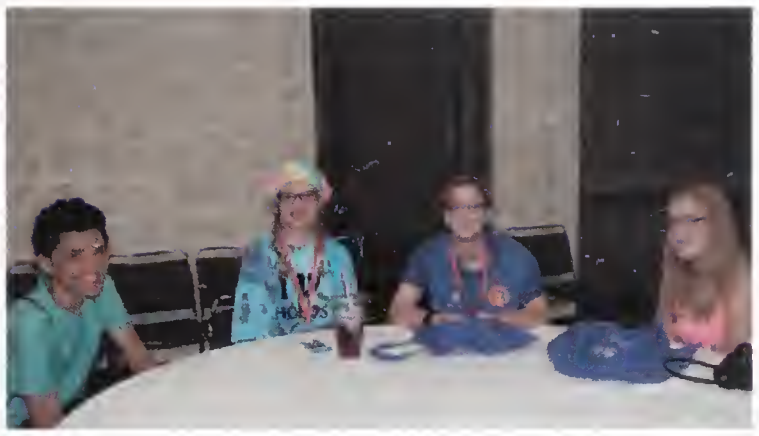
348. A guy comes in with 30 no date buffalo nickels. I offered 10 cents each and I said that they are uncollectible without a date. He says, "Oh, they were made that way at the Mint".

349. A customer wants to return a NGC certified 1oz gold buffalo because he cannot tell if it is real. I tried to explain certification to no avail so we gave him a raw one.

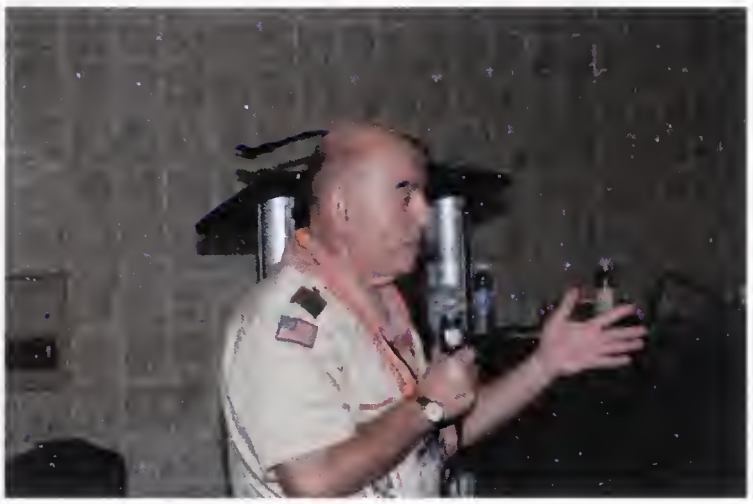
350. Sometimes when bullion drops, the premium goes up. I explain this to a customer so he says, "I will wait till bullion goes up so that I can pay a smaller premium". I said, Ok?".

The End

Summer FUN 2015 Summer FUN



Young Numismatists Program



Young Numismatists panning for GOLD

Scouts Program

Article from the Past - previously published Summer 1990

U. S. Counterfeit and Forged Coins : Objectives and Techniques - Part 1

ByTony Vigliotta

All numismatists at one time or another in their collecting avocation have had an encounter with either a counterfeit or a forged coin. My interest was piqued recently when I received a winning bust half lot in a national mail bid sale that didn't quite look right. After detailed analysis and additional consultation with knowledgeable fellow coin club members, we all arrived at the same conclusion.

This coin, which had been in circulation for 150 years, was a counterfeit. Any doubt about the legitimacy of this coin was totally erased from my mind when I examined it under the coin club's stereo microscope where minor surface abrasions appeared like craters.

With my interest aroused and somewhat abashed at my superficial knowledge of counterfeits and forgeries,I proceeded to do some research on the subject.

This counterfeit 1832 Bust Half was probably in circulation for 150 years before being identified as counterfeit.

With the use of Winter Park and Central Florida Coin Club library resources I managed to obtain some background data on the subject. However, my greatest source of research material wa the excellent DATA Resource Center of the ANA. Availing myself of ANA's toll free number, I initially requested a bibliography of the ANA books in the library on the subject of counterfeits. I reviewed the bibliography and requested those applicable to my research. This data is the prime source used in the preparation of this article on the subject of counterfeit and forgeries.

Before proceeding with the result of my research on the subject, it is essential to define the prime terminology and techniques of the processes utilized in this unlawful profession. Counterfeiting was initiated shortly after the first coins were struck by the Lydians under Kin Croesus around 620-600 BC on lumps of electrum, stamped with the King's seal.

Counterfeit: To create false money for private gain by placing it immediately in circulation as coin of the realm.

Forgery: An unauthorized copy of a genuine numismatic item, made for sale to collectors at a price based on it presumed rarity and value.

Cast-Counterfeit: A counterfeit coin produced by the casting process rather than being struck from dies.

Die-Struck Counterfeit: A spurious coin manufactured in approximately the same manner as its genuine counterpart by being struck from dies.

Electrotype: A copy of a coin or medal made by an electroplating process.

Electrical Discharge Machine(EDM): EDM is also referred to as the spark erosion method which produces forgeries by utilizing electrical discharges to manufacture the necessary dies for creating the desired surreptitious numismatic rarity.

Centrifugal Casting Process: Casting process utilizing a centrifuge to increase the density and the surface equality of the forged numismatic item. This technique is also called the lost wax process initially designed to cast jewelry and dental molds.

Altered Coins: Coin of the realm that i changed in appearance or engraved to increase its intrinsic value or rarity.

A review of the literature available in the history of counterfeits and forgeries will substantiate that counterfeiting ust be the second oldest profession. As soon as human beings become sufficiently social to have any sort of commercial interchange. Here was someone, somewhere, trying to pass off an inferior article as one of full value.

Counterfeit Objectives

Cast counterfeits have been with us from ancient days. Through the years casting has probably been used more often to fashion counterfeits than all other techniques. Up to the 20th century the prime objectives of counterfeiting had always been to create false money by decreasing the value of the metal used in the counterfeit from pared to that of the circulating coin of the realm. One would think that debasing the metal content of counterfeits applied only to coins with high intrinsic value such as silver and gold. This not the case, as all coins, at one time or another, have been counterfeited, irrespective of metal content.

A recent article in Coin World stated that the English half penny was a prime target of counterfeiters in the 1700's. The use of brass and even lead by counterfeiters instead of copper was widespread. Around 1750 it was estimated that 30 percent of circulating coppers in the colonies were counterfeited and that many counterfeit coins weighed less than half the prescribed weight. It is utterly amazing that counterfeiters could get away with such blatantly unsuitable substitutes. But, either through public ignorance or indifference, the counterfeit coins freely circulated with the coins of the realm.

(continued on next page)

Counterfeit and Forged Coins : Objectives and Techniques

ByTony Vigliotta

(continued from previous page)

As editor of the newsletter for the Bust Half Nut Club (BHNC) I assembled background data on the counterfeiting of Bust halves minted from 1807 to 1836. An excellent data source of counterfeits prevalent in the early 1800's is *Monogram of the Silver Dollars Good and Bad*, published by J. L. Riddell in 1845. Thirty counterfeit Bust halves were attributed with approximately an equal ratio between struck die and cast counterfeits. In all cases the objectives of the counterfeiting was to debase the silver content of the Bust halves. The intrinsic silver value content of these counterfeits varied from zero (German silver) to a maximum of 20 cents.

Apparently the advent of machine struck coinage caused a decline in cast counterfeits and an increase in die struck counterfeits. The reason for the changeover in counterfeiting techniques was that cast counterfeits failed to reproduce the perfect edges, well struck designs, and flat field fashioned by machine struck coins.

However the objectives of counterfeiting remained fairly constant up to the 20th century, namely to create false money with minimal intrinsic value especially as related to silver and gold coinage. Another cimplistic counterfeiting technique employed in the mid and late 1800's was the altering of coins by appling gold plating. This technique was applied to large cents and especially the 1883-no cent V-nickel. The practice of gold plating the 1883-no cent V-nickel became so widespread that it became known as the "Rackateer Nickel."

The 1883-no cent V-nickel was a favorite target for gold plating, hence its nickname, "Racketeer Nickel."

A tale has been related about a Josh Tatum and a jeweler friend of his who obtained 1,000 V-nickels, to which they added a reeded edge and gold plating. Tatum was quite successful but was finally apprehended for the crime ofpassing off the V-nickel as $5.00 gold pieces. IT is a long story but in the interest of expediency the outcome was that Tatum was acquited of any crime. It turned out that he was a deaf mute. IT seems that when he handed in the coin for a five cent purchase, Tatum siad nothing and heard nothing. Just waited and usually received change for $5.00. He *never requested* the $4.95in change. Since it is not a crime to *accept* $4.95 when it is offered to you, the prosecution did n ot have a case and Tatum went free.
This story is related to indicate how easy it was to pass counterfeit coins prior to the 20th century. In retrospect though, I got one in 1988from a major coin dealer, who thought it was a legitimate coin.

Nevertheless, since the mid to late 20th century the objectives of counterfeiting and forgery have changed radically. Counterfeiting coins of the realm has been overshadowed by the forgery of rare and high value numismatic items.

In the mid 1900's there was a relatively small number of collectors. This meant the product of the forgers had a liited market with attendant low prices. The past 30-40 years has seen a rapid growth in the avocation of mumismatics and collectors number in the millions. Today a forger can make considerably more from the sale of a single coin than a former counterfeiter could make in passing a large number of counterfeit coins. However, although the forger and his techniques have improved, the knowledge of the collector has also improved, thanks to books authentication agnecies, courses in detection, and coin clubs. Therefore, the forger has been driven to create better products than ever by using iproved techniques.

Thus we have seen that the objectives of the counterfeiter, which had been constant for over 26 centuries, has completely disappeared so that counterfeiting circulating coins for the primary purpose of bullion debasement is not longer economicallywarranted. This is especially true since 1965 when we went to clad coinage with minimal intrinsic value. Therefore the goal of today's forger is to produce high quality copies of high value numismatic rarities.

The techniques of counterfeiting and forgery are addressed in the following section and will show the rapid advance made by therse illicit tradesman in their goals to achieve undetectable gorgeries of high value numismatic items.

PART 2 in Winter issue of FUNTopics

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The Eric P. Newman Collection Part VII Dallas – October 21-24, 2015 U.S. Currency – HA.com/3539	CLOSED
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U.S. Coins Signature® Auction New York – October 29 – November 2, 2015 U.S. Coins	September 15, 2015
Houston Money Show Houston – December 3-4, 2015 U.S. Coins	October 20, 2015
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Auction	9 X 3 3/4	28.60	50.00	233.00	454.00
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Checks	9 5/8 X 4 1/4	35.00	62.50	280.00	477.00

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foleylawoffice@gmail.com

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Ft. Myers Coin Club has been busy

Pictured above and below are photos of their coin show. The cub scouts from pack 117 working on their Merit Badges. Also with the Florida Military Museum Traveling Museum helping to celebrate the club's "Salute to Veterans".

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EXHIBIT CLASSIFICATIONS

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_____Paper Money _____Miscellaneous
_____Foreign Coins _____Junior YN(9-16) _____Senior YN(17-21)
_____Errors (All numismatic errors) _____Clubs (Any material relating to exhibiting club)
Competitive_____ Non-Competitive_____

Previous exhibit awards at FUN conventions_____
My intended convention address, if known_____
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Exhibit Title_____
Exhibit description: A brief note describing the theme/numismatic purpose of your exhibit. Use back of application if needed._____
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Number of Cases Needed #_____; or I shall provide #_____ cases of my own.

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I have read the "Rules for Exhibitors" and agree to abide by them. I guarantee all of the numismatic material in my exhibit is my own property. I hereby release Florida United Numismatists and its directors, members, agents, and servants in their official and personal capacities from any liability for loss, damage or destruction of my exhibited materials. The foregoing release shall not limit the liability of any individual who may be personally guilty of theft, willful damage or destruction of my numismatic material.

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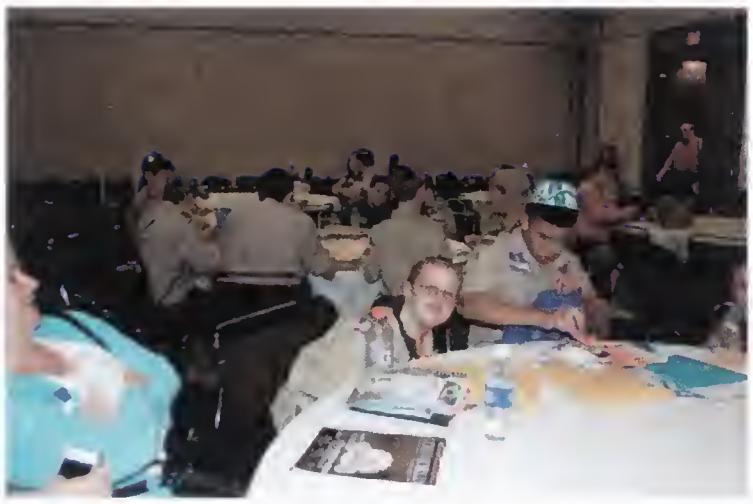

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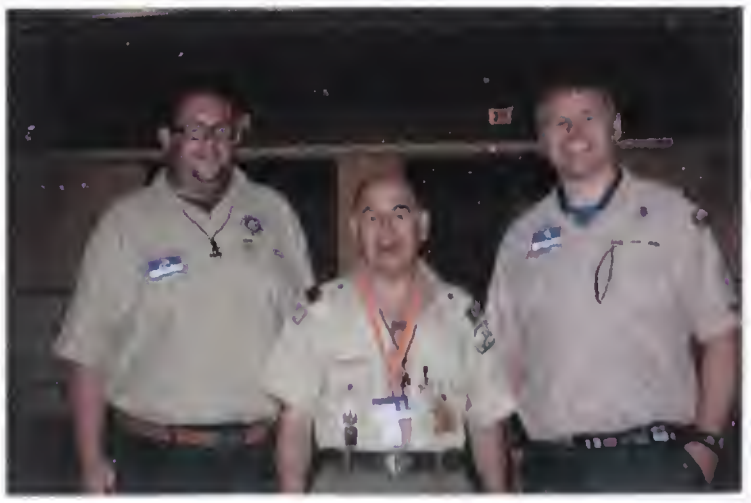

Driving Directions to
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From Ocala & Gainesville:

Take I-75 South to I-275 Junction.
Exit 45A.
Follow signs for Tampa Street. Stay in the middle lane and enter the Tampa Convention Center Garage.

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From Bradenton, Sarasota, Venice, Ft. Myers, Ft. Lauderdale, Miami, Naples:
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Numismatic Ambassador Award

The Numismatic Ambassador Award started in 1974 by Cliff Mishler at Krause Publications. This is an award at the grass roots level where numismatists might not otherwise be recognized by the numismatic community. Since its beginnings, over 370 numismatists have received this prestigious award. Every year, nominations are accepted and voted on by the ambassadors. Usually five nominees receive the award at the ANA National Convention Numismatic Ambassador Breakfast. Dave Harper, the editor of Numismatic News has been the master of ceremonies.

At the 2014 ceremonies, it was announced that this would be the last ambassador awards.

After speaking with many ambassadors and numismatic organizations, it was decided that Florida United Numismatists would sponsor the award beginning at the January 2016 FUN Show in Tampa Florida. Nothing has changed, both Dave Harper and Cliff Mishler will be running the ceremonies at the breakfast.

Tony Swicer is the FUN administrator of the Numismatic Ambassador award. If you have received the numismatic ambassador award and have not been contacted in the past two years, please contact Tony so that he has your updated information. Nomination Application is on page 14.

Tony Swicer
P. O. Box 5823
Lake Worth, FL 33466
swicer@comcast.net
561-964-7236

Club Notes

Tony Swicer

Call for Volunteers for January FUN show in Tampa- FUN needs volunteers for January 7-10, 2016 in Tampa. If your club is interested, contact FUN board member Gary Braisted at numisman57@gate.net

Nominations for Numismatic Ambassador Award are being accepted until September 1st, 2015. The awards will be presented at the January FUN show in Tampa. Need a nomination form? Page 14 of this imagazine, or contact Tony at swicer@comcast.net or funtopics.com website.

Ancient City Coin Club- had 37 at their last meeting. John Schubert presented "FUN's Finds & Treasures" and "The Pros & Cons of being Non-Profit".

Brandon Coin Club- had a successful coin show. Their next show is August 29th at Brandon Elks Lodge, 800 Centennial Lodge Dr, Brandon, FL 33510. They had 42 at their last meeting.

Casselberry Coin Club- had a program by Ray Herz, "Step Up to Jefferson Nickels, Part 1". They had 20 at their last meeting, and signed up 2 new members. They had a show n tell, raffle, refreshments, and the auction.

Central Florida Coin Club- coin show will be returning to the fairgrounds this fall. The program was "Grading 201: AU/BU The Great Divide, Part 2".

Clearwater Coin Club- had 58 at their last meeting. Their big annual show was July 3-5th.

Ft. Lauderdale Coin Club- participated in the July 4th parade to advertise their coin show. They had a table at summer FUN selling their 60th anniversary medals. They also had a raffle for a 1st edition Coin World, 1960.

Ft. Walton Beach Coin Club- had 65 at their last meeting. Max Dawkins showed an accumulation of World War II currency that his father-in-law picked up in Europe. Dave Parenteau showed how junk box finds lead to a collection.

Gold Coast Coin Club- had a DVD on "Fundamentals of Numismatics".

Greater Daytona Coin Club- had Ray Herz speak on, "The Coinage Act of 1965; A 50-Year Retrospective".

Greater Jacksonville Coin Club- had a program on "Obsolete Currency" by Tony & Travis Bucci. The club will be receiving 2nd place at the ANA for their publication, for the local category. Their club medal is available in silver, copper, and brass. Contact gjccpres2012@bellsouth.net They had a table at summer FUN selling their club medals.

North Lake Coin &Currency Club- had a 50/50 drawing, raffle, and the auction.

Ocala Coin Club- had 22 at their picnic. Phil Cambers spoke on "Hawaiian Currency", used in 1883.

Palm Beach Coin Club- had Robert Leneve, Dan Pecoraro, and Richard Spencer speak on their trip to the ANA summer seminar in Colorado Springs. Dan Pecoraro gave a program on "Coin Photography". Several members reported on their trip to summer FUN.

Sarasota Coin Club- had 27 at their last meeting. Club medals are still available in silver, goldmine, and copper. Contact SRCC, 640 S. Washington Blvd. Suite 100, Sarasota, FL

South Brevard Coin Club- had pizza and a movie. They had a show n tell on Canadian & US coins followed by the auction.

Tampa Bay Coin Club- had a table at summer FUN and sold 39 club medals. 30 attended the meeting. Jack Iaci gave a program on, "Wisconsin State Quarters, Errors & Varieties", followed by the auction.

Treasure Coast Coin Club- had a video on "Queen's Jewels 1715 Fleet", followed by the auction.

Venice Coin Club- was attended by 24 members and 3 guests. Phil Kolbe had the club guess, "What is the Mystery Country"?, followed by the auction.

West Hernando Coin Club- had a report on the bus trip to summer FUN, followed by the auction.

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I am now retired from the coin shop. • Call me anytime between 9AM and 11PM E.S.T.

Tony

NEW LOCATION

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FUN Member Club Lunch Meeting

Tony Swicer, on behalf of FUN, invited two members from each member club to a get-together to include lunch. Twenty-two people showed up representing 12 clubs. David Lisot video taped the entire meeting. There was discussion of several subjects including - making your local club meeting interesting and encouraging new members to join

Door prizes were won by **Vicki Walde, Joe Marshall, Tom Bobbitt, James Fleer, Rudy Valentin, Bob Leneve, Jim Best, Nancy Valentin, Hugh Taggart, and Richard Selvar**. All received a Silver Eagle.

Those present were **Jay Dixon** - Central Florida Coin Club, **Bill Hatfield** & **Sid Dyson** - Brandon Coin Club, **Bill Battles & Tom Bobbitt** - Greater Jacksonville Coin Club, **Jim Best** – International Association of Silver Art Collectors, **Jerry Walden** & **Vicki Walden** - Ancient City Coin Club, **Tim Klotterman** - West Hernando Coin Club, **Archie Taylor** - Original Hobo Nickel Society, **Carol Bastable** - Love Token Society, **Robert Leneve** - Palm Beach Coin Club, **Wade Harrell & Rick Selvar** - Ocala Coin Club, **Rudy Valentin & Nancy Valentin** - Tampa Bay Coin Club, **Inge Taggart & Hugh Taggert** - Tampa Bay Coin Club, **Richard Spencer** - Palm Beach Coin Club, **Jaci Newmark & Joe Marshall** - Ft. Lauderdale Coin Club, **James Fleer** - West Hernando Coin Club.

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The National Silver Dollar Roundtable is dedicated to promoting United States silver dollars. The objective of the organization is to advance the knowledge of numismatics, especially for U.S. silver dollars, along educational, historical and scientific lines. NSDR assists in bringing about cooperation among all persons interested in collecting, buying, selling, grading, exhibiting and preserving U.S. silver dollars, through educational forums, social meetings, written articles, newsletters and other publications of interest. Our educational programs have, through the years, featured the most respected names in numismatics.

The National Silver Dollar Roundtable publishes a Journal annually for all regular, and associate members. Copies may be obtained by either joining the NSDR or by placing a subscription c/o the NSDR secretary, **Marlene M. Highfill.**

Silver dollars are the most popular coin collected today. There are many dates, types, VAMs and other varieties to collect & enjoy. Collectors often need numismatic help when trying to accumulate a collection and/or portfolio. Collecting Silver Dollars may be very complicated and you may need to consult a dealer. There are thousands of coin dealers in the U.S. When you see a regular doctor, he may need to send you to see a "specialist." The same goes for Silver Dollars. That is where the National Silver Dollar Roundtable (NSDR) comes in. When it comes to Silver Dollars, you really do need a "specialist". The following dealers have been very carefully selected and approved by the NSDR Board of Governors. The National Silver Dollar Roundtable has recently celebrated its 28th Anniversary. Below is a complete list of current NSDR members. We are proud of our members and recommend them all to you. Remember, when it comes to collecting Silver Dollars, don't just call any coin dealer, consult a **"NSDR SILVER DOLLAR SPECIALIST!"**

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Numismatics of Distinction, Ltd
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NSDR Past Presidents: Joe Buzanowski, Dean Tavenner, John Highfill, Leon Hendrickson, Al Johnbrier, Randy Campbell, Mike Faraone, Jeff Oxman

N.S.D.R. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:

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1990 John Love, Cut Bank, MT
1991 Harlan White, San Diego, CA
1992 LeRoy Van Allen, Sidney, OH
1993 Wayne Miller, Helena, MT
1994 John W. Highfill, Broken Arrow, OK
1995 Al & Joann Johnbrier, Bowie, MD
1996 Jack Lee, Jackson, MS
1997 Randy Campbell, Cedar Park, TX
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1999 Bob Wilhite, Iola, WI
2000 Bob Hendershott, FL
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2011 John W. Dannreuther, Memphis, TN
2012 Donald H. Kagin, Tiburon, CA
2013 Steve Ivy, Dallas, TX
2014 Diane Piret, Belle Chase, LA

NSDR President: Jeff G. Oxman
P.O. Box 25, Broken Arrow, OK 74013-0025
918-254-8931 • 918-249-1792 Fax

NSDR Treasurer: Don Ketterling
3855 R East Thousand Oaks Blvd., Ste. #136, Westlake Village, CA 91362
805-118-7155 Office/Fax • 818-632-2353 Mobile

NSDR Secretary: Marlene M. Highfill
P.O. Box 25, Broken Arrow, OK 74013-0025
918-254-8931 • 918-249-1792 Fax

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Early Bird Badges

If you do not have a table at the F.U.N. show and would like entry into the convention hall during dealer hours, you may do so by purchasing an "early bird badge." The cost of the badge is $100.00. You will need to pay your current year's dues of $15.00, if they are not already paid.

There is a separate line at the dealer registration counters with a header that reads "early bird badges." That line is open during all dealer registration hours. You may purchase your badge at the dealer registration counters any time before the F.U.N. show begins, and you may enter the bourse floor area at **2:00 PM on Wednesday during dealer set-up**, and also at 8:30 AM each day rather than 10:00 AM when the public is allowed to enter. **This badge will not allow you behind any dealer's table.**

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Send your check to:
F.U.N.
PO Box 471147
Lake Monroe, FL. 32747-1147

Your check must arrive one week before the show begins so it can be processed before the F.U.N. convention coordinator departs for the convention.

F.U.N. now uses non-expiring digital photo ID badges. You are responsible for this badge. If lost it will cost you $30.00 for a replacement. When you take your badge home with you, please bring it with you to all future F.U.N. conventions. Keeping track of your photo ID badge will prevent your having to wait in the photo ID line at future F.U.N. conventions, both January and Summer F.U.N.
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Charleston, SC 29413
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Member Clubs

Tony Swicer

American Israel Numismatic Assoc. #19615
Donna Simms, Treasurer, PO Box 20255, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269. Dancinaz-donna@gmail.com

Ancient City Coin Club #3893
PO Box 814, St Augustine, FL 32085-0814 Denny's Restaurant SR16 & I-95.St. Augustine, FL. accc.anaclubs.org/index.html
7:00 PM, 3rd Monday

Barber Coin Collectors' Society #19608
°/o Eileen Ribar, 2053 Edith Place, Merrick, NY 11566
www.BarberCoins.org

Blue Ridge Numismatic Association LM - 686
Contact: BRNA, P O Box 56156, Virginia Beach, VA 23456 (www.brna.org)
Bourse: Blenda Brush PH: 864-617-3378
JBrush2@gmail.com
Annual meeting in August at Dalton GA

Brandon Coin Club, Inc #20799
Contact: Paul Giordano, Pres. PH: 813-719-5192. St. Andrews United Methodist Church, 3315 Bryan Road Room 421, Brandon, FL 33511.*7:00 PM - 3rd Tuesday*
brandoncoinclub@yahoo.com

Bust Half Nut Club #14074
Contact: Stephen Herman, 2817 S. Jay St., Denver, CO 80227-3801.
ANA annual and regional meetings

Bust Quarter Collectors Society #19148
9301 Park West Blvd.
Knoxville, TN 37923

Casselberry Coin Club #24722
259 Live Oaks Blvd. Casselberry, FL 32707-3829.
Meets 1st Tuesday 7:00PM at 806 Mark David Blvd, Casselberry

Central Florida Coin Club LM - 568
Contact: PO Box 568061, Orlando, FL 32856. Senior Citizen's Center ,Corner of Marks St & Magnolia Ave
7 15 PM - 2nd & 4th Wednesday

Central States Numismatic Society LM - 827
Contact Patricia Foley, 131 W. Layton Ave Ste 212, Milwaukee, WI 53207.
Email foleylawoffice@gmail.com

Clearwater Coin Club LM - 395
PO Box 4032, Clearwater, FL 33758. American Legion Post #7, 1760 Turner St., Clearwater, FL. Doors open at 6pm.
7:00 PM - 2nd & 4th Tuesday
http://www.clearwatercoinclub.50megs.com

Coin Club of Pasco County #13860
PO Box 1012, Port Richey, FL 34668. Meetings: 2nd Thurs 7PM. Regency Park Civic Association, 10240 Regency Park Blvd., Port Richey, FL 34668
Http://pascocoinclub.50megs.com

Colonial Coin Collectors Club #24673
Jim Rosen, President. 9 Seminole Way, Bloomfield, CT.06002.
www.colonialcoins.org.
Annual meetings and Regional meeting.

CONECA-Combined Organization of Numismatic Error Collectors of America #16025
Mark Lighterman, 5224 West SR 46 #408, Sanford, FL 32771.
email: mlighter@bellsouth.net
www.conecaonline.org

Cuban Numismatic Association #19059
Contact: President: Emilio M. Ortiz, emo.cna.bod@gmail.com
www.cubannumis.com

Currency Club of Long Island #19551
PO Box 1270, Massapequa, NY 11758
Contact: John Musarra, PH: 516-314-0802

Early American Coppers LM - 587
EAC, PO Box 2462 Heath OH 43056.
Web site: eacs.org.
Annual conventions, regional meetings

Error & Variety Ready Reference #24563
website: http://error-ref.com/
Contact person:Jeff Ylitalo
email: jylitalo@yahoo.com

Florida Casino Chips & Gaming Tokens Collectors Club #19503
c/o Mark Lighterman 5224 West SR 46 #40, Sanford, FL 32771

FloridaToken Society LM - 560
Contact: Pat Hynds, Sec/Treas, 4746 South Atlantic #2, Ponce Inlet, FL 32127-7182
WebSite: http:www.steveratliff.com./fts/
Email: Steve@Ratliff.com
Meets 4 times yearly

Fly-In Club - Flying Eagle & Indian Cents LM-1026
c/o Chris Pilliod, PO Box 954. Reading, PA 19603
www fly-inclub org

Fort Lauderdale Coin Club LM - 726
PO Box 15604, Plantation, FL 33318 - Volunteer Park Community Ctr., 12050 W. Sunrise Blvd., Plantation, FL.
7:15 PM - 2nd & 4th Thursday
www.ftlauderdalecoinclub.com

Fort Myers/Cape Coral Coin Club #4361
Contact: PO Box 152953, Cape Coral, FL 33915-2953; contact person: Gary Lewis 239-699-7719, meeting place: 3601 Riverside Drive. Ft. Myers, FL 33901
7:00 PM - 3rd Thursday
email: *gelewis@aol.com*

Fort Walton Beach Coin Club #5696
Meeting Place: Joe & Eddies Restaurant, 400 N. Elgin Pkwy,
6:30 PM - 2ndT hursday
email: fwbcoinclub@gmail.com
www.fortwaltonbeachcoinclub.com

Georgia Numismatic Association LM -752
Secretary - Ron Wichman at:
rlwichman@bellsouth.net 707-394-4103
PO Box 76161, Atlanta, GA 30358-1161
website: www.gamoney.org

Gold Coast Coin Club #19549
%Bill Sanders 20415 NE 10th Ct. N. Miami, FL 33179
www.billscoins@att.net

Greater Daytona Beach Coin Club #2850
PO Box 214005, South Daytona , FL 32121-4005 PH: 386-305-3536 - United Presbyterian Church, 730 Beville Rd. Daytona Beach, FL
bobcoin@earthlink.net
7:00 PM - 2nd Tuesday

GreaterJacksonvilleCoinClub LM - 861
PO Box 48322, Jacksonville, FL 32247
PH: 904-733-8040 - NE Florida Safety Council, 1725 Art Museum Dr. Jacksonville, FL 32207
htttp://gjcc.anaclubs.org/
7:00 PM - 2nd Monday

ICTA #12491
Contact:Kathy J. McFadden, PO Box 3253 Annapolis, MD 212403
PH: 410-626-7005 - FAX:410-626-7007
Summer @ ANA -- Winter @ FUN

International Association of Silver Art Collectors #12280
Contact: Carrie Best, Sec/Treas, PO Box 5202, Lakeland, FL 33807-0034.
Annual meeting

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Member Clubs

Tony Swicer

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International Bank Note Society #21896
Contact: David Frank, DDS, PO BOx 7894, Chesterfield, MO 63006-7894.
Email: us-secretary@ibns.biz

John Reich Colletors Soc. #24704
Contact: David Perkins, Treasurer
8012 S Albion St.
Centennial, CO 80122-3900
Annual Meeting: August ANA
Regional Mtg: FUN, EAC, Nov. Baltimore

LC Swain Coin Cub #25226
5332 Lake Worth Rd. Greenacres, FL 33463. Contact: Daniel k. Pecoraro at Daniel.Pecoraro@Palmbeachschools.org

Liberty Seated Collectors Club #23528
Craig Eberhart, Sec/Tres
PO Box 712
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Lincoln Cent Resource #25225
c/o Peter Lucik
PO Box 121
Rutherford, NJ 07070
website: www.linconcentresource.net

Love Token Society #12856
Contact: Sid Gale, P O Box 2351 Denham Springs, LA 70727 - PH: 225-664-0718
www.lovetokensociety.com
email: sidgale@cox.net
Annual meeting ANA - local meeting FUN

Low Country Coin Club #26153
PO Box 62248, N. Charleston, SC 29445
email: Lmangie@aol.com

Lower Cape Fear Coin Club #25857
PO Box 4744
Wilmington NC 28406

Madison County Coin Club #25233
Thomas W. Davison, MCCC, PO Box 2103, Madison, AL 35758.
Sr. Senior Center, 2200 Drave Ave SW, Huntsville, AL 35640. 4th Tuesday each Month except May and Dec. *website: http:/mccc.anaclubs.org/*

Manatee Coin Club LM-801
Contact: Fred Vandergriff, 673 Cortez Plaza, Bradenton, FL 34207. 941-756-0186. Meeting place: Christian Reformed Church, 4208 26th St. W. Bradenton
7PM - 3rd Tuesday.

Maryland State Numismatic Assoc. LM - 899
PO Box 13504 Silver Spring, MD 20911-3504.
Annual Meeting: Whitman Expo-Baltimore
website: *www.mdstatenumisassn.org.*

Metropolitan Coin Club of Atlanta LM-976
PO Box 76090, Atlanta, GA 30358-1090
770-394-4103 - Ronald Wichman, Treas
email: rlwichman@bellsouth.net
website: www.mccatl.org

Missouri Numismatic Society #21821
PO Box 410652, St. Louis, Mo 63141-0652.
Creve Coeur American Legion, 934 E. Rue de la Banque. St. Louis, Mo.
4th Wednesday, except November.
info@missourinumismaticsociety.org.

National Silver Dollar Roundtable #8573
PO Box 25, Broken Arrow, OK 74013-0025.
John Highfill PH: 918-254-8931
email: oklahomacoin@cox.net

North Lake Coin and Currency Club #21483
c/o Don Pitcher, 352-245-5680.
Wildwood Community Center, 6500 Powell Rd (CR139), Wildwood, FL 34785email: northlkccc@centurylink.net
6PM - 9PM- 2nd Wednesday Monthly

Numismatic Bibliomania Society #16137
Contact: David M. Sundman, Sec/Tres, PO Box 82, Littleton, NH 03561
Website: http://www.coinsbooks.org./
Meet at: ANA and FUN

The Greater Ocala Coin Club #2948
Contact: Rich Selvar, PO Box 3091, Ocala, FL 34478-3091 - PH: 352-748-5225. Motel 6 exit 354 on I-75 and hwy 27.
6:30PM - 4th Tuesday

Original Hobo Nickel Society, Inc #13367
Contact: Becky Jirka, Secretary, 5111 Illinois Avenue, Lisle, IL 60532-2015
email: beckyjiohns@yahoo.com
Annual meeting FUN

Palm Beach Coin Club LM - 875
Contact: Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466 - PH: 561-964-8180 (M-F 9-5) American Polish Club, 4725 Lake Worth Road, Greenacares, F 33463.
7:00 PM - 2nd & 4th Wednesday
email: swicer@comcast.net

Pensacola Numismatic Society, Inc #14539
Contact: http://www.pensacolanumismatic-society.20m.com Sonny's Restaraunt on Navy Blvd.. Pensacola
6:30 PM-3rd Thursday
email: pensacolacoin@att.net

Pennsylvania Association of Numismatics (PAN) #25317
1985 Lincoln Way Suite 23 #225
White Oak, Pa 15131

Red Rose Coin Club #21891
PO Box 7212
Lancaster, PA 17604-7212
Phone: 717-872-4425

Ridge Coin Club of Sebring #600
Box 1584 Tanglewood, Sebring, FL 33872
Contact: VP-Barry Radawiec, 863-382-8958

Saint Louis Numismatic Assn. #22092
c/o: Mike Orlando, PO Box 1102, St. Louis, Mo. 63074.

Saint Petersburg Coin Club LM - 376
c/o Robert Wiley. 727-580-4108,3603 50 Ave N. St Petersburg, FL 33714. St Petersburg Community Church, 4501 30th Ave. North.
600 PM - 2nd Monday
email: Landjhester@yahoo.com

Sarasota Coin Club LM-795
c/o David Klein, 640 S. Washington Blvd. Suite 100, Sarasota, FL 34236-7130
Waldemere Fire Station Waldemere St.
7PM - 3rd Monday
email: dlcgklein@aol.com

Silver Sands Coin Club #3829
PO Box 543, Lynn Haven, FL 32444
Palo Also Church of Christ, Hwy 231, Panama City, FL Contact: Anthony Bedell.
email: abedell3@comcast.net
7:00 PM - 3rd Tuesday Monthly

Society of Paper Money Collectors #19469
Robert Moon, 104 Chipping Ct., Greenwood, SC 29649

Society of Silver Dollar Collectors #23515
c/o Mike Andrew, 680 Grackle Dr., Casselberry, FL 32707

South Brevard Coin Club #6773
The Peace Lutheran Church, 1801 Port Malabar Blvd. NE, Palm Bay, FL. Contact: Marie Shea, President. PO Box 100712 Palm Bay, FL 32907.
PH: 321-914-3510.
7 pm - 1st Wednesday.
email:*Marie.sheapalmbay@gmail.com*

South Carolina Numismatic Association (SCNA) #29078
Po Box 693, Lugoff, SC 29078.
email: *pascalbrock@gmail.com*

Southern Gold Society #17209
c/o David Crenshaw, P O Box 237, Dacula, GA 30019-0004.
Quarterly Meetings

Souvenir Card Collectors Society #12996
c/o Arthur S. Patrick, 2729 Cloudcroft Dr. Apopka, FL 32703, PH: 407-889-0528.
Spatrick3@cfl.rr.com

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Member Clubs

Tony Swicer

(continued from previous page)

Sunken Treasure Literature Club #20113
Contact: David Crooks, PO Box 166
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514
email: dcrooks@dcrooks.com

Tallahassee Numismatic Club #25070
Contact: Hemanth Vasanthaiah,President.
850-322-4647.
Meetings: 4th Tuesday. Galleries of Grace Estate Buyers, Governors Square Mall, Tallahassee.
email: hemanth.vasanthaiah@gmail.com

Tampa Bay Coin Club #815
Forest Hills Park, 724 W 109th Ave.
Contact:Joseph Crespo. PO Box 1035, Land O'Lakes, Fl 34639. PH: 813-420-6460
tbcc1955@aol.com
Meetings: Second Tuesday 6:45PM.
www.tampabaycoincub.org

Tennessee State Numismatic Society LM - 802
Bourse: Gayle Pike, 901-327-1703
Box 11705, Memphis, TN 38111
email: pikegk@aol.com; website:www.tsns.org
Annual meeting: March show

The 1715 Fleet Society #24062
Ben Costello, 505 Washington Trust Building, Washington, PA 15301
email: 1715fleetsociety@gmail.com

The Elongated Collectors (TEC) #25252
PO Box 1885 Tehachapi, CA 93581-1885

Titusville Coin Club #14020
Harry Gieseler - 321-269-3206. Indian River Civic Center. 4220 S. Hopkins, Titusville, FL
7:30 PM - 3rd Tuesday

Treasure Coast Coin Club, Inc #2896
PO Box 6070, Vero Beach, FL 32961-6070
Bldg. Y Room 102, In Fort Pierce at the Indian River State College
7:00 PM - 2nd Wednesday

Venice Coin & Currency Club #23301
PO Box 1083, Venice, FL 32484. Venice City Hall, 401 W. Venice Ave, Venice, FL
7:00PM - 4th Monday
crotona2104@msn.com

Virginia Numismatic Association (VNA) #25332
PO 263 Cape Charles, VA 23310
vnaonline.org

West Hernando Coin Club #21199
9100 Nakoma Way, Weeki Wachee, FL
Bruce Schneider: 352-584-3163
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ANA Award of Merit

Past FUN President **Tony Swicer** is presented the ANA's Award of Merit by Tom Mulvaney during the ANA show in Chicago. This award is given to those who have given many years of dedicated service to the ANA and numismatics in general.

CONGRATULATIONS Tony!!!

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Ancients hobby should be more novice-friendly

By Wayne A Munscher

I collected Morgan silver dollars for many years. I, like many colectors, got tired of the same old thing. I looked for something new, exciting and interesting. I finally settled on ancient Bysantine coins.

Collecting ancient coin requires taking an interest in the time period, the people, their customs and economy of the country for which coins you collect.

This is all said and good except for the following:

It is difficult for the beginner to find good books, at a reasonable price, adding difficulty for the beginner collector to get started.

Most local coin shows are not covered by even one ancient coin dealer.

Coin magazines give very little coverage on ancient coins, including articles and ads.

Beginning collectors have not understanding of the language of the coins they now collect. This causes great difficulty in identifying coins not yet attributed.

Very few coin clubs have members who collect ancient coins.

Most ancient coin clubs are in or near large cities, leaving nothing for the rural collector.

Ancient coins of higher grade are hard to find and are expensive.

There are no price lists for the purchase of ancient coins, leaving most beginner collectors in the dark on what is a fair price to pay for their purchases.

Grading of ancient coins is much more difficult for the beginner. A coin of high grade with deposits is off center, is overstruck or weak strike is not much of a coin despite the act the coin has tremendous detail whre detail shows.

Beginning collectors may soon lose interest because of a lack of camaraderie. The need for someone else to share interest, finds, opinions, to learn from others more experienced in the field is very important.

If collecting ancient coins is to continue and maybe increase in the future, efforts need to be made to help the beginner collector. One area of help can be the ancient coin dealer. Ancient coin dealers' attitude toward the novice collector will either increase the number of collectors or reduce collecting to experienced collectors. If this happens, who will be the collectors of ancients 20 years from now?

The end.

First Strike? Early Releases? -What They Really Mean

By Grant Shobar, YN ANA Scholarship Winner

At the recent Summer Seminar (Session One), I had the opportunity to take Grading Part One, instructed by Mr. Rod Gillis, Mr. Mike Ellis, and Mr. Brian Fanton. Among the obvious topics of coin grading, we were also educated on some less obvious topics, ranging from the minting process to doubling, to "First Strike" or "Early Releases" designations. Perhaps most captivating was the partially hidden controversy of such designations and the real meanings, and marketing ploys that lie beneath.

I have no doubt that near all readers have come across such PCGS and NGC designated coins... countless times. However, less commonly known is the class action lawsuit filed against both PCGS and NGC in 2007 by Florida collector Tom Francisco. At the time of the lawsuit, both PCGS and NGC used the misleading designation "First Strike" and for that reason were prosecuted.

According to Mr. Ellis, "'First strikes' are a marketing ploy created in 2005 by marketing geniuses at PCGS. They even go as far as claiming the PCGS 'First Strike' designation is a proprietary trademark of PCGS!" Soon after PCGS began using such terminology, NGC had followed suit with their own "First Strike" designation. The confusion behind such phrasing comes in that by titling a coin "First Strike," many collectors understandably assume that this implies that the coin was the first strike from a set of dies. Considering that the amount of die sets used to mint any given coin is relatively low (less than a dozen for silver eagles), and that most legitimate first strike coins from a die set are mixed with hundreds or thousands of other identical coins, it is scientifically reasonable, and rather obvious, to assume that it is physically impossible to have hundreds or thousands of "First Strike" designated coins from less than a dozen die sets.

Being aware of the misrepresentation lying within the "First Strike" designation and seeing the case as one destined for a loss, NGC settled for a grand total of $650,000; of which $447,500 was awarded to the ANA for the purpose of "consumer education", $7,500 went to Francisco for his time and troubles, and $195,000 went to the prosecuting attorneys. NGC, under approval of the court, went on to rename the designation "Early Releases" for the same purpose as the predecessing "First Strike" designation.

Before further action could be taken against PCGS, however, Francisco sadly passed away, effectively terminating progress on the lawsuit (though not closing it). PCGS still actively designates coins as "First Strikes" and claim, "First Strike" is now a proprietary trademark of PCGS. The United States Mint has since also addressed the issue, stating, "Coin dealers and grading services may use these terms in varying ways. Some base their use on the dates appearing on United States Mint product packaging or packing slips, or on the dates of product releases or ceremonial coin strike events. Consumers should carefully review the information below along with each dealer's or grading service's definition of 'first strike' or 'first release' when considering a purchase of coins with these designations." They go on to say, "United States Mint products are not individually numbered and we do not keep track of the order or date of minting of individual coins. Any dates on shipping boxes are strictly for quality control and accounting purposes at the United States Mint," which further supports the fact that not only is it not possible to have as many "First Strikes" as are made, but also the mint does not use any method of tracking coins that legitimately are the first strike of a set of dies!

Realizing that "First Strike" and "Early Releases" are simply marketing ploys used by third party grading services to create artificial specifications for a coin is crucial. Unless you are a collector of slabs (and it is completely respectable if you are), and not the coins within, it is unfeasible as to why a premium should be placed on such coins. Such designated coins are coins no different from coins minted later in the minting process, except of course for the designation.

That said, it is of no consequence of whether or not you purchase such coins, as it is important for every collector to pursue whatever their collecting interests may be, but it is vital that every collector understand the meaning of such designations.

(continued on next page)

First Strike? Early Releases? -What They Really Mean

By Grant Shobar, YN ANA Scholarship Winner

(continued from previous page)

On one final, but important, note, is the grade of proof coins in the conditions of 70. Such grades are fairly commonly seen on modern proofs, despite how rare they really should be. Recognizing that a true 70 coin is one that is quite literally "perfect", it must not display any trace of any damage of any kind. This damage includes everything from obvious scratches, down to hairlines that require magnification to identify, down to marks from lint. The problem of lint in the minting process is often overlooked. Tiny pieces of it floating around in the air inevitably end up between the planchet and die, which results in a very small scratch-like incused line, frequently looking as though they are a piece of lint on top of the coin, when they really are the impression of lint in the coin itself. This tiny lint impression keeps the coin from being a perfect 70, however such blemishes are often overlooked because the percentage of coins free from lint markings is so astronomically small. For this reason, coins graded 70 should nearly always be assumed to not necessarily be a perfect coin, but rather one that is a high end 69.

As consumers and dealers alike in the numismatic market, it is imperative that all be aware of what they really are buying. While many, I'm sure, do already understand much of what goes on, there are likely equal as many who do not. Education is always the most important factor in any market, and numismatics is no different.

Considerable credit goes to Mr. Mike Ellis who has served as the primary "consumer educator" (as payed for in the class action lawsuit settlement of NGC) and from whom much of the information in this article was provided.

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or email cfccbourse@hotmail.com, Donna Moon Bourse Chair

Show Calendar

Jim Best

2015

August 29
Brandon Coin Club Coin, Currency, and Stamp Show. Brandon Elks Lodge, 800 Centennial Dr. Brandon, FL. Contact: Mark Palermo. PH: 813-361-0740.
email: mpalermo1@tampabay.rr.com

****September 6**
Maitland Coin and Currency Show, Maitland Civic Center, 641 S. Maitland Ave. Maitland, FL. Contact: Jason Lowery
PH: 407-739-4817.
website: www.maitlandcoinshow.com

September 12
St. Petersburg Coin Club Show. Disabled American Veterans, 4801 37th Street North, ST. Petersburg, FL 33713. Contact: Robert Wiley PH: 727-580-4108, PO Box 1201
St Petersburg, FL 33784-1201

September 13
South Brevard & Missle Stamp Club Show, Eau Galle Civic Center, 1551 Highland Ave., Melbourne, FL. Contact: Alysha Wilson. PH: 321-751-3647.
email: wilson4808@bellsouth.net

September 20
Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show, Volunteer Park Comty Ctr. 12050 W Sunrise Blvd. Plantation, FL ++ Contact: Joe Marshall, PO Box 22102, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335-2102 PH: 954-802-4967.
email: magikj48@yahoo.com

September 25-27
Central Florida Coin Club's Fall Coin & Money Show. Central Florida Fairgrounds, Hall C. 4603 W. Colonial Dr. Orlando, FL. Contact: Donna Moon PO Box 568061, Orlando, FL 32856. PH: 407-657-6440
email: cfccbourse@hotmail.com
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September 25-27
Virginia Numismatic Associaiton 57th Annual Convention, Coin & Currency Show. Fredericksburg Expo and Conference Center. 2371 Carl D. Silver Parkway. Fredericksburg,VA 22401.
John Cunningham. 703-303-0783
email: cunningham314@verizon.net

September 27
Palm Beach Coin Show, American Polish Club, 4725 Lake Worth Road, Greenacres, FL Contact: Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466
PH: 561-964-8180 (M - F + 9 - 5)

October 4
Gold Coast Coin, Stamp, & Collectibles Show, Mardi Gras Casino, .841 N. Federal Hwy, Hallandale Beach, FL
Contact: Bill Sanders
PH: 305-389-5847
email: www.GoldCoastCoinClub.com

****October 4**
Maitland Coin and Currency Show, Maitland Civic Center, 641 S. Maitland Ave. Maitland, FL Contact: Jason Lowery
PH: 407-739-4817
website: www.maitlandcoinshow.com

October 10
St. Petersburg Coin Club Show. Disabled American Veterans, 4801 37th Street North, ST. Petersburg, FL 33713. Contact: Robert Wiley PH: 727-580-4108, PO Box 1201
St. Petersburg, FL 33784-1201

October 10
Ancient City Coin Club sponsored coin and currency show. Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #113. 5050 Inman Rd. St. Augustine, FL Contact: Jerry & Vicki Walden
PH: 904-940-6245

October 11 New Location
South Brevard & Missle Stamp Club Show, The Azan Shrine Center, 1591 Highland Ave., Melbourne, FL. Contact: Alysha Wilson. PH: 321-751-3647.
email: wilson4808@bellsouth.net
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****October 16-18**
The Collectorama Coin & Currency Show. The Lakeland Center, 701 West Lime, Lakeland, FL ++ Contact: Ed Kuszmar, PO Box 4049, Boca Raton, FL 33429
PH: 561-392-8551
email: CollectoramaShow@aol.com
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October 17-18
Fort Walton Beach Coin Club Show, Westwood Retirement Community. 1001 Mar-Walt Dr., Fort Walton Beach, FL. Contact: Dave Parenteau. 1838 Abercrombie Rd., Gulf Breeze, FL 32563. PH: 850-932-0933.
email: pronto22@bellsouth.net
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October 18
Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show, Volunteer Park Comty Ctr. 12050 W Sunrise Blvd. Plantation, FL ++ Contact: Joe Marshall, PO Box 22102, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335-2102 PH: 954-802-4967.
email: magikj48@yahoo.com

October 22-24
PAN (Pennsylvania Association of Numismatics) Coin Show. Monroeville Convention Center, 209 Mall Blvd. Contact: Blaine Shiff, PH: 412-531-4100
email: pancoins@gmail.com AD - page 47

October 23-25
Sarasota & Manatee Coin Club's Show, Municipal Auditorium, 801 N. Tamiami Trail, US 41, Sarasota. Contact: Frank Cox, 755 S. Palm Ave. #203, Sarasota, FL 34236.
PH: 941-954-0202.
email: frankcox@comcast.net
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October 25
Palm Beach Coin Show, American Polish Club, 4725 Lake Worth Road, Greenacres, FL Contact: Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466
PH: 561-964-8180 (M - F + 9 - 5)

****November 1**
Maitland Coin and Currency Show, Maitland Civic Center, 641 S. Maitland Ave. Maitland, FL. Contact: Jason Lowery PH: 407-739-4817.
website: www.maitlandcoinshow.com

November 7
Brandon Coin Club Coin, Currency, and Stamp Show. Brandon Elks Lodge, 800 Centennial Dr. Brandon, FL.

November 8 New Location
South Brevard & Missle Stamp Club Show, The Azan Shrine Center, 1591 Highland Ave., Melbourne, FL. Contact: Alysha Wilson. PH: 321-751-3647.
email: wilson4808@bellsouth.net
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November 5-8
Whitman's Baltimore Coin and Currency Convention. Baltimore Convention Center, halls A,B,C, 1 West Pratt St. Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD. PH: 404-214-4373.
www.whitmanexpo.com AD - page 21

November 8
Gold Coast Coin, Stamp, & Collectibles Show, Mardi Gras Casino, .841 N. Federal Hwy, Hallandale Beach, FL
Contact: Bill Sanders
PH: 305-389-5847
email: www.GoldCoastCoinClub.com

****Commercial Show**

(continued on next page)

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Show Calendar

Jim Best

(continued from previous page)

November 13-15
Tennessee State Numismatic Society Annual Coin Show, Camp Jordan Arena, Chattanooga, TN. Contact: Gayle Pike, 901-327-1703
email: pikegk@aol.com AD - page 12

November 14
St. Petersburg Coin Club Show. Disabled American Veterans, 4801 37th Street North, ST. Petersburg, FL 33713. Contact: Robert Wiley PH: 727-580-4108, PO Box 1201 St Petersburg, FL 33784-1201

November 15
Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show, Volunteer Park Comty Ctr. 12050 W Sunrise Blvd. Plantation, FL ++ Contact: Joe Marshall, PO Box 22102, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335-2102 PH: 954-802-4967.
email: magikj48@yahoo.com

November 20-21
Rose City Coin Club Coin & Currency Show. Michael Ray Owen Fine Arts Building. 200 N. Pinetree Blvd. Thomasville, GA 31792. Chairman: Bill Vaughn
PH: 2290228-6304
email: m\thomasvillevaughn@gmail.com

November 21
Fort Myers Coin and Paper Money Show, Masonic Lodge, 10868 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, 9-3.Contact: Jay Chamberlain, PO Box 62056, Ft. Myers, FL 33906,
Ph: 239-297-8592.
email: jcflcoins@comcast.net

November 22
Palm Beach Coin Show, American Polish Club, 4725 Lake Worth Road, Greenacres, FL Contact: Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466
PH: 561-964-8180 (M - F + 9 - 5)

December 5-6
Silver Sands Coin, Currency and Stamp Show, Bay County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, Panama City, Fl. .Contact: Doug Gibson PH: 850-215-8565. Free admission and parking.
email: nfccshop@knology.net

December 6
Gold Coast Coin, Stamp, & Collectibles Show, Mardi Gras Casino, .841 N. Federal Hwy, Hallandale Beach, FL
Contact: Bill Sanders
PH: 305-389-5847
email: www.GoldCoastCoinClub.com

****December 6**
Maitland Coin and Currency Show, Maitland Civic Center, 641 S. Maitland Ave. Maitland, FL. Contact: Jason Lowery PH: 407-739-4817.
website: www.maitlandcoinshow.com

December 11-12
Greater Jacksonville Coin Club, Coin and Collectible Show, Morocco Shrine Temple, 3800 St. Johns Bluff Rd., Jacksonville, FL
Contact: Matt Adams, PH: 904-703-3311..
email: gjccpres@bellsouth.net
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December 12
St. Petersburg Coin Club Show. Disabled American Veterans, 4801 37th Street North, ST. Petersburg, FL 33713. Contact: Robert Wiley PH: 727-580-4108, PO Box 1201 St Petersburg, FL 33784-1201

December 13 New Location
South Brevard & Missle Stamp Club Show, The Azan Shrine Center, 1591 Highland Ave., Melbourne, FL. Contact: Alysha Wilson. PH: 321-751-3647.
email: wilson4808@bellsouth.net
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December 20
Fort Lauderdale Coin Club Coin & Stamp Show, Volunteer Park Comty Ctr. 12050 W Sunrise Blvd. Plantation, FL ++ Contact: Joe Marshall, PO Box 22102, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33335-2102 PH: 954-802-4967.
email: magikj48@yahoo.com

December 27
Palm Beach Coin Show, American Polish Club, 4725 Lake Worth Road, Greenacres, FL Contact: Tony Swicer, PO Box 5823, Lake Worth, FL 33466
PH: 561-964-8180 (M - F + 9 - 5)

2016

January 7-10, 2016

F.U.N. 61st Annual Convention. Tampa Convention Center ,333 S. Franklin St. Tampa, FL. Contact: Cindy Wibker, PO Box 471147, Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1147. PH: 407-321-8747; Fax: 407-321-5138
e-mail: Cwibker@aol.com
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January 16-17
Treasure Coast Coin Club, Inc. Coin & Currency Show Community Center, 14th Ave & 23rd St, Vero Beach, FL. Contact: Scott Anderson, PH: 772-607-3321.

January 16
Fort Myers Coin and Paper Money Show, Masonic Lodge, 10868 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, 9-3.Contact: Jay Chamberlain, PO Box 62056, Ft. Myers, FL 33906, Ph: 239-297-8592.
email: jcflcoins@comcast.net

February 5-7
Ocala Coin Club Coin Show, Motel 6 Convention Center, Rte. 27 and I-75,
3810 Blitchton Rd. Contact: Rich Selvar, PO Box 3091, Ocala, FL 34478-3091.
PH: 352-257-7111.

****February 19-21**
The Collectorama Coin & Currency Show. The Lakeland Center, 701 West Lime, Lakeland, FL ++ Contact: Ed Kuszmar, PO Box 4049, Boca Raton, FL 33429
PH: 561-392-8551
email: CollectoramaShow@aol.com
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March 5
Fort Myers Coin and Paper Money Show, Masonic Lodge, 10868 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, 9-3.Contact: Jay Chamberlain, PO Box 62056, Ft. Myers, FL 33906, Ph: 239-297-8592.
email: jcflcoins@comcast.net

April 15-17
52nd Anniversary Georgia Numismatic Association Coin & Currency Show, NW GA Trade & Convention Center, Dalton, GA, I-75at Exit 333. Contact: Chip Cutcliff PH: 770-639-0190.
email: chascoins06@yahoo.com
AD - page 40

April 27-30
Central States Numismaticc Society 77th Anniversary Convention, Schaumburg Renaissance Hotel & Convention Center, 1551 North Thoreau Dr., Contact: Patricia Foley PH: 847-303-4100,
email: foleylawoffice@gmailcom
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July 1-3
Clearwater Coin Club, Inc. Coin Show, Innisbrook Gold & Spa Resort, 36750 Hwy 19 N Palm Harbor, FL. 34684. Contact: Ed Neito PH: 727-482-4956
email: bassfishintoday@gmail.com
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July 7-9, 2016

10th SUMMERFUN Convention.
ORANGE COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER 9800 International Drive•Hall C, Orlando, FL. Contact: Cindy Wibker, PO Box 471147, Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1147. PH: 407-321-8747. PH: 407-321-8747; Fax: 407-321-5138
e-mail:Cwibker@aol.com AD - page 56

****Commercial Show**

FLORIDA UNITED NUMISMATISTS

FUN Show January 07-10, 2016
Tampa, FL | Tampa Convention Center
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HOTEL RESERVATIONS

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Call 855.467.7245, Weekdays 8:30 am – 5:30 pm
Or Fill out and Fax this form to 410.659.8398
Email reservations@funshowhotels.com

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2nd_____

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Number of beds requested _____

Additional occupants
(Maximum of four per room)

name _____

name _____

HOTEL INFORMATION

Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel and Marina - $159.00

- Walking Distance; Across street from Convention Center
- 25% Discount on Valet Parking when booked through our Official Room Block only.
  Currently $25.00 per night for overnight parking.
  ($6.25 savings applied with 25% discount. Valet Parking is the only parking available at Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel and Marina. Parking fees are subject to change.)
- Complimentary Guest Room Internet Access

Embassy Suites Tampa Downtown Convention Center - $169.00

- Walking Distance; Across street from Convention Center
- 20% off Overnight Valet Parking when booked through our official room block only.
  Currently $20.00 per night.
  ($4.00 savings applied with 20% discount. Valet Parking is the only parking available at Embassy Suites Tampa Downtown Convention Center. Parking fees are subject to change.)

The Barrymore Hotel Tampa Riverwalk - $129.00

- 1.3 miles from Convention Center
- Free Parking (normally $8.00)

ROOM RATES/TAXES - All rates are per room night and are subject to a 12% tax. Rates are Single/Double. Some hotels may charge additional fees for rooms with more than two occupants. The hotels will assign specific room types upon check in, based upon availability.

DEPOSITS - All hotels require a credit card guarantee for each reservation request. Requests received without a credit card guarantee or check deposit will be returned. Please fill out the credit card information entirely.
CONFIRMATIONS - The FUN Show Housing Company will send a confirmation, please review it carefully for accuracy.
CHANGES/CANCELLATIONS - All changes and cancellations should be through the modify link online or by contacting us at the phone numbers above by December 16, 2015. Please call your hotel directly for changes and cancellations *after* December 30, 2015 only.

You're in the right place! This is your event's official hotel housing form.

Guard your identity and make certain your reservation is authentic.
As a rule of thumb, always start at your event's website.

F.U.N.

Awards two scholarships to ANA Summer seminars

2016 Adult Scholarship Program

This program is to assist adult(s) to attend the Annual ANA Summer Seminar with dormitory rooming and meal plan, tuition, and coach transportation. We hope the intent of the scholarship matches your expectation. Below we outline the qualification process and the guidelines the F.U.N. Board of Directors have approved. GOOD LUCK!!!

2015 Winner - No entries

Eligibility:

1) Membership in F.U.N. for at least one year before applying for scholarship.
2) Membership in the American Numismatic Association.
3) Demonstrated interest and ability in sharing knowledge through one or more of the following:
   a) Giving presentations to non-numismatic entities such as schools, community service groups, Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.
   b) Presenting programs at coin clubs or coin shows.
   c) Writing articles for local, regional, or national numismatic publications.
   d) Serving in leadership positions for local clubs, or volunteering to help insure a successful coin club or coin show.
4) Agreeing to submit an article to FUN Topics upon return from the Annual ANA Summer Seminar on the subject matter of your class.
5) This award must be used the year it is awarded.

General Guidelines:

Submit a short Essay (less than 500 words) on what you have done for numismatics since becoming involved in the hobby. Tell us your area of interest and how the ANA Summer Seminar would help in pursuing your goals. Please give examples of how you plan to share your experiences with fellow hobby enthusiasts after attending the seminar. **The deadline for your application must be postmarked by October 1, 2015** and mailed to: FUN, Donna Moon, Secretary,PO Box 780401, Orlando, FL 32878-0401.

BEST-OF-SHOW

The Best-of-Show Exhibit winner will be presented a scholarship, sponsered by Heritage Auctions, to the ANA Summer Seminar at the Annual Florida United Numismatist coin convention every year. The following requirements will apply.

2015 Winner - Tom Uram

1. Only one scholarship will be given each year for the Best-of-Show winner.
2. Your subject matter may not win the scholarship in consecutive years. In case the same exhibit would get another Best-of-Show within a consecutive year, no scholarship would be given out that year.
3. If you win the scholarship, you would be required to be an ANA member before the scholarship is awarded.
4. You are required to write an article for FUNTopics.
5. FUN will pay for coach airfare, tuition, and a room in the dorm and food in the campus cafeteria. If anyone wants to stay and eat elsewhere, they will be given a $ amount equal to the "Campus rates."
6. The award must be used the year it is awarded.
7. Any deviation from the above must be approved by the FUN Board of Directors.

ANA SUMMER SEMINAR

by Tom Uram

"Best of Show" Exhibit winner 2015 for his exhibit entitled:
"The Kings and Queens of England through Maundy Money"
This award is sponsored through Florida United Numismatists, Inc. by Heritage Auctions.

I took some time off this past July to attend the summer seminar hosted by the American Numismatic Association in Colorado Springs, CO. This has been something that I have always wanted to do for quite a long time. With 40 years of numismatics under my belt that has included involvement in local Western Pennsylvania coin clubs to my current roles as president of the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists and as a member of the Citizen's Coinage Advisory Committee, I thought that my bucket list was still lacking and after some encouragement from fellow collectors and friends it was time to go back to college.

I signed up for the first level grading class, boarded the plane, and journeyed to Colorado Springs. I opted to go with a dorm room at Colorado College that is walking distance from ANA headquarters. My room brought back those memories of early days at the University of Kentucky and the anticipation of thinking will I make the grade.

I was amazed at the variety of students that attended. Young numismatists, dealers, foreign students, and the senior crowd, that are always fun to hang out with, filled the area and created an immediate positive buzz that gave that sense of making the right decision to attend.

The grading class was very comprehensive and became a wake up call to how much I did not know. Our class was divided into teams and we were scored on how close we came to being proficient graders. Two of my teammates were coin dealers from Russia. We didn't set the world on fire but held our ground. We did get the point that improvement was necessary. All areas of grading were touched on and one could easily take the same class again and learn more each time. My next goal will be to sign up for the second level grading class next summer.

(continued on next page)

New Friends from Russia

Mary Lannin fellow CCAC member

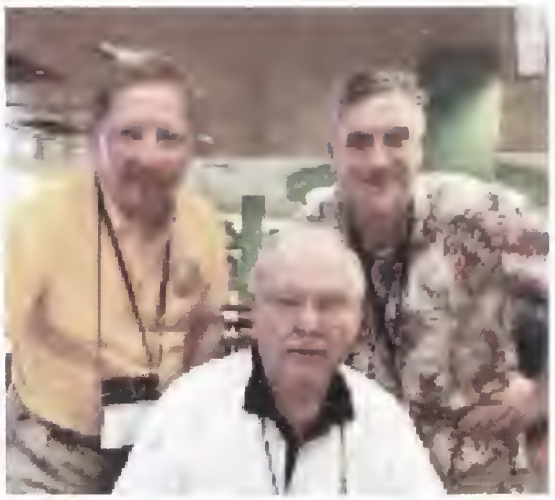
ANA SUMMER SEMINAR

by Tom Uram

(continued from previous page)

The evenings were scheduled with fun activities that include the YN auction that was quite lively. I met some of my close friends in the numismatic area of competitive exhibiting and we compared notes. The ANA shows have the best array of stunning collector exhibits ever assembled. The World's Fair of Money each summer is by far the most well represented place of exhibits each year. I'm proud to say that I have walked away with a few first place prizes over the years. None would have been possible without the guidance and tips from fellow collectors and judges that were also in attendance at the summer seminar.

I came back with a plethora of knowledge that I never realized I needed. We have all heard time and again that knowledge is power and the ANA makes it a lot of fun also. The sessions were first class with premiere instruction from the best people in the industry. The days and evenings are filled with a full slate of activities that make the time pass by very quickly. It is the most delightful way to make new acquaintances and see some old friends again in a very relaxed environment. I'll be back again. Sign me up!



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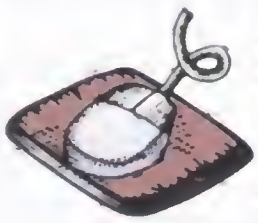

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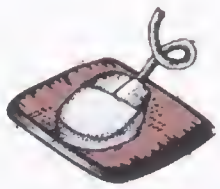

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